Friday 17th November was our farewell ceremony. This day marks the end of the schooling journey for our grade 12 students. Our students conducted themselves admirably throughout the ceremony. The entry and exit songs were well received by the audience and the senior song was sung aloud with pride. The speeches from the school captains were heartfelt and the tears from our seniors when exiting the hall reflects the impact our school has on students. I must commend our school captains for the way in which they assisted with the chairing of the ceremony. A congratulations also goes to all students involved in the fundraising to create the 'senior legacy' plaque that will be displayed in our school in memory of each graduating cohort. Everyone in attendance at the morning tea was impressed with the quality of the plaque.

Congratulations to all graduating grade 12 students. I wish you all the best with your future endeavours.

Mr Williams

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**Issue 15- 2017**

**Upcoming Events**

**Monday, 4th December**—Junior Rewards Day

**Tuesday, 5th December**—Year 6-9 GALA Day

**Thursday, 7th December**—Science to Cairns Aquarium

**Friday, 8th December**—Last Day of Term 2017

**Monday, 22nd January**—Years 7, 11 & 12 Start 2018

**Tuesday, 23rd January**—Full School in Attendance

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**Senior Farewell Parade**

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**From The Principal**

It was a pleasure to present the Principal’s address at the Gordonvale SHS Annual Presentation Awards last Tuesday evening. This event is the culmination of our academic year and an opportunity to acknowledge academic, sporting, service and community excellence.

During the evening we enjoyed ‘Brown Eyed Girl’, ‘Exs and Ohs’, ‘Just the Way You Are’, ‘Sweet Child of Mine’, and ‘Rolling in the Deep’ performed by the School Stage Band Choir and conducted by Mrs Tennille Farnsworth and Mr Kelly Perger, and our guitar club students, who performed with Mr Boorman, ‘Push’.

The students who received the major awards were as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Student</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior School Dux</td>
<td>Lucy Peterson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior School Dux</td>
<td>Amy Greenwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caltex All Rounder</td>
<td>Charlee Rose Paron</td>
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<tr>
<td>ADF Long Tan leadership &amp; Teamwork Awards Year 12</td>
<td>Charlee Rose Paron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADF Long Tan leadership &amp; Teamwork Awards Year 10</td>
<td>Kalanae Brooke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non. Warren PEI Scholarship</td>
<td>Yahd Ludwick</td>
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<tr>
<td>Member for Mulgrave Youth Volunteer</td>
<td>Soraya Houghton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Citizenship</td>
<td>Charlee Rose Paron</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Cultural Person of the Year</td>
<td>Shyanja Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Cultural Person of the Year</td>
<td>Choyiela Valiy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Executives Award in Leadership</td>
<td>Soraya Houghton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Leadership Award</td>
<td>Emily McKay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRQ 1941 Recreational Australia of the Year</td>
<td>Vanessa McFaraday</td>
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<tr>
<td>VPS Vocational Student of the Year</td>
<td>Alex Gala</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personal Achievement Award</td>
<td>James Gray &amp; Biley Musumeci</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robin Duncan Memorial Trophy for Sportmanship</td>
<td>Kiara Bennett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Sportperson</td>
<td>Kiara Bennett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Sportperson</td>
<td>Brady McPhyre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sportsperson of the year – Special Needs</td>
<td>Tiron Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheila Jenner Environmental Award</td>
<td>Samantha Harish</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous Encouragement Award Year 12</td>
<td>Olivia Bowe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous Encouragement Award Year 11</td>
<td>Kai Beckhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous Encouragement Award Year 10</td>
<td>Hayley Resies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous Encouragement Award Year 9</td>
<td>Travis Edwards</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous Encouragement Award Year 8</td>
<td>Jarna Goldth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indigenous Encouragement Award Year 7</td>
<td>Talz Ali</td>
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<tr>
<td>JCU Academic Encouragement Award</td>
<td>Clayton Lewis</td>
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<tr>
<td>JCU Academic Encouragement Award</td>
<td>Jena Noonan</td>
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<tr>
<td>UQ Australian School Award and sponsorship</td>
<td>Lucy Peterson</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Year 12 Graduation**

**Gordonvale Carols**

8th December

4.30pm – 9pm

A family fun evening of Markets, Music, and Prizes in Norman Park.

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**GORDONVALE State High School**

**Personal Excellence, Successful Futures**

Respect...Quality...Honesty...Safety
The Staff and Students of Gordonvale State High School would like to acknowledge and express thanks to the following sponsors of this year’s Presentation Evening:

AAB Equipment Pty Ltd; Australian Defence Force; Aus Menus; Babinda Bakery; Babinda Munro Theatre; Federal Member for Kennedy, Bob Kennedy; Caltex Australia; Caltex Gordonvale; Central Queensland University; Hartley’s Educational; Hartley’s Crocodile Adventures; Hoolihan’s Electrical; Intersport; James Cook University; Mad About Plants; Manu Tropical Skywalk; Member for Mulgrave, Curtis Pitt; MSF Sugar; Northern Pride; NG School Photography; Oxalide School Supplies; Parpanella Park; Picconos Supa IGA; Roger and Jacqui Whitaker; Vocational Partnership Group; Honourable Warren Pitt.

Thank You – Gordonvale 2017

On behalf of the staff at Gordonvale SHS we would like to thank you for your support throughout 2017. We are anticipating close to 850 students by day 8 next year. Our Junior Secondary and Senior Secondary teaching and learning programs for 2017 will continue to ‘raise the bar’ through our HIGH EXPECTATIONS school culture.

With your support at home and in the school community, we will continue to deliver strong leadership which drives the school forward. Our commitment to implementing new and exciting initiatives to enhance the educational experience for your child will continue in 2018.

This leadership commitment will be underpinned by a strong focus on the basics – high quality teaching & learning, high standards of behaviour, attendance and uniform.

A number of teachers will farewell us at the end of this year. Many thanks to the following teachers who served as valuable members of our 2017 teaching staff:

Mr Marcus Honnef (Science/Agriculture teacher); Mr Andrew Hislop (Mathematics teacher); Ms Andrea Watters (Humanities teacher); Mrs Lauren Huth (Science teacher); Mrs Judy Sturgess (Special Needs teacher); Mr Paul Kennedy (English teacher); Mr Peter Shuttleworth (Special Needs teacher); Ms Amanda Coutts (English/Humanities); Ms Janelle Morris (Japanese teacher); Ms Rebecca Glovey (HPE teacher); Ms Alison Newkold (Maths, Science teacher); Ms Alexia Toffolon (English, Humanities teacher), Mr Mark Villanueva (Science, HPE teacher) Ms Toni Huggins (Humanities teacher) and Ms Alana Tobin (Science operations officer); Mr Kieren Gibbs, Operations Officer with the GSHS Clontarf Academy.

Teachers taking extended leave for all of 2018 include, Mr Cal Graydon, Mr Liam Ritchie, Ms Alice Bowman, Ms Erica Rusch and Ms Alana Chataway.

School Fees and Clearance Forms

It is important that parents and carers finalise all outstanding school fees. Resource scheme (hire) statements are regularly mailed to parent’s and carer’s home address. The resource scheme is an option that parents and carers can access in order that their children are provided with the texts, handouts and computer online time necessary for effective learning. The cost to be part of the scheme is far less than if text books, photocopying paper and internet access had to be purchased by parents and carers.

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 fees are paid. A payment plan of $6-00 per week 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.

In 2018, we will continue with our clearance form. Students wishing to participate in non-curriculum activities such as sporting events, school camps, and non-assessment excursions, cultural or social events must complete a clearance form. To participate in the before mentioned 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.

Old Uniforms in Good Condition

After your last day at Gordonvale State High School – 2017, if you have uniforms that are not required by younger siblings, our Student Welfare Action Team would greatly appreciate them. We can pass these on to our students in need in 2018. Please deliver them to our Student Services Office in A12 at your earliest convenience. We will be very grateful for any support in this area.

On Friday 10th November our senior graduation was held at the Pullman International. The format this year consisted of a graduation ceremony followed by a graduation dinner. The ceremony was attended by students, parents, carers and friends. It was here that students were presented with their certificates and gift. Following the ceremony students and guests were invited up to the pool deck for drinks and canapes. The setting was fantastic and the students enjoyed taking photos that will be cherished for years to come. After the canapes students and their partners were invited back to the function room for dinner. A beautiful buffet style meal was presented and was enjoyed by all. The highlights of the dinner were the senior video and the ‘silly awards’ that the grade 12 students had developed and voted on. Matthew Sues delivered a short but insightful speech about his arduous journey through school and the fact that he made it. This had the whole room entertained.

The entire evening was smooth running and the vibe was fantastic. Well done to all involved with the organisation of the event.

Photos by NQ School Photography are available for viewing and purchase online at www.nqsp.com.au using the shoot key UJ4HANZ2.
To date we've produced over 10L of this liquid gold and the students would like to thank all involved for their contributions.

Using ABC gardening Guru Costa's bathtub worm farm prototype we set out to produce the soluble fertilizer known as worm tea.

Generous donations of timber, bathubs, doors, buckets and more from the Cairns regional Council Buyback shop gave us the infrastructure to sit the tubs high in order to collect the fertilizer easily. The students assembled the frames and levelled the site in a carefully selected area. The composting appropriate red tiger worms were generously donated by a student's family.

Using the power of photos, snapchats and videos to remind them!

As this is our last newsletter for the year, I would like to extend to all our families the very best the festive season can bring.

Regards  Jan Carr—Principal

Congratulations Kieara

Kieara has been boxing for only 4 years and her training paid off when she represented Queensland last weekend in Melbourne. Unfortunately she did not advance beyond the second round after being beaten by a 17 year old, a girl four years her senior, but she did herself proud. She enjoyed her trip and found it all very exciting and hopefully she can make again next year.

Well done Kieara, we are all so proud of you.

Clontarf—Year 12 End of Year Trip

Springs aquatic centre, present a PowerPoint to Qantas, view Ayers Rock at sunrise, flew over the Olgas in a helicopter, jumped on a camel for a guided tour, visited gorges and swimming holes, check out the new Justice League movie and much more!

Over the duration of the trip the boys also got up close and personal with some emus, an endangered species of rock wallaby, different species of lizards and a heap of wild camels.

Tuck shop Opening Hours during holidays (Purchase of Uniforms)

The uniform shop will be open at the following times during the last week of the school holidays:

Monday 15th and Tuesday 16th January – 9:00am – 3:00pm
Wednesday 17th January - 7:00am – 1:00pm
Thursday 18th January and Friday 19th January – 1:00pm – 6:00pm.

And finally

In 2018 students start school on the following dates:
Monday 22nd January 2018 — Years 7, 11 and 12
Tuesday 23rd January 2018 — All students should be attending school
The school office will be open from Monday 15th January to Thursday 18th January, 9.00am – 3:00pm

The boys, Ben, Camden, Linton, Marcus, Joshua, Isaiah and Waylon, had the trip of a lifetime. Before we left Cairns the boys were treated to a get together at Cairns Kart Centre where we had a couple of Go Kart races and Sunday lunch. This gave us an opportunity to check everyone was in Cairns, packed and ready to go for a very early Monday morning pick up.

The real trip kicked off Monday morning with Sam home pick-ups. From here the next 130+ hours was an amazing adventure. The boys got to go for a swim at the Alice Springs aquatic centre, present a PowerPoint to Qantas, view Ayers Rock at sunrise, flew over the Olgas in a helicopter, jumped on a camel for a guided tour, visited gorges and swimming holes, check out the new Justice League movie and much more!

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The Power of Pallets

Last Saturday night was The Power of Pallets Auction, to raise money for the Cairns Base Hospital. Four year 9 students (Jasmine, Alexandra, Kristine and Liliana) and a year 11 student (Bradley) did a fantastic job and spent an enormous amount of time salvaging timber from the pallets and building an adirondack chair and a rocking motorbike. 90 lunch hours and 3 x after school 1 ½ hr sessions paid off.

The exhibition and auction night was a huge success with $33,000 raised. These proceeds will go to the Far North Qld Hospital Foundation. An unbelievable $1000 was raised for their rocking motorbike and $650 for the adirondack chair. They are all super excited with the outcome, the money raised is unbelievable really.

Further to this was the Judge’s Choice by Jamie Durie. The winners for this years Hospital fundraiser Pallet Prize Categories are:

School – Gordonvale State High School
Individual – Sharon Hine – Love Lee Creations + Restorations
Community Group - Cairns Mens Shed
Business - Eden and Wade.

Congratulations to all involved and a special thank you to Mr Dilger for his tireless efforts and countless missed lunches. And I’m sure he will do the same again next year.

Indigenous Leaders of Tomorrow & Indigenous Leaders of the Future

On the 20th of October, 13 senior students attended a sharing success day with a number of other secondary schools from across the Far North Queensland area. This was a good opportunity to share with other secondary schools the leadership role these students have modelled in the school.

Shayna led the group with their PowerPoint presentation that each student had to present to 80 plus secondary students. Networking and reuniting with other students from across the region was a memorable experience, especially for the Year 12 students who passed their knowledge, skill and motivation on to the other students who will be following in their footsteps.

The day led into the evening where students attended a Night of Celebrating Success at the Pullman International Hotel. Although it rained, the venue was packed with students, invited guests, parents and staff.

Each student individually took the time to register themselves online, with the help of Thecla Matthew and Neal Teal (CEC), to participate in both events.


QATSIF (Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation) QCE Graduation Ceremony for Year 12 Scholarship Recipients for 2017.

Congratulations to the year 12 recipients. The QATSIF QCE Scholarship Scheme provides opportunity and support to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. It assists in the completion of schooling and making available opportunities through higher education. It also assists in building a foundation for employment and prospects for a better quality of life.

This scholarship is managed by the school to support students throughout year 11 and 12. This is done through a number of curriculum activities and leadership roles within the school and with the support of the communities in which they reside.

The graduation ceremony was hosted at Peace Lutheran College. There were students from across the Far North Queensland Region who attended. Following the ceremony a morning tea which was prepared by the Staff at Peace Lutheran was enjoyed by all.

Thanks to Karen, Cameron and Neal.

We are looking forward to working together and supporting students at Gordonvale State High School in 2018.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, stay safe and have a great holiday.

From: Community Education Counsellors - Thecla Matthew & Neal Teal.
**For Sale by Tender**

Gordonvale State High School is offering for sale by public tender 5 Brahman Cross Heifers.

Total weight 1,468kg – 1 x 320kg, 1 x 308kg, 1 x 294kg, 1 x 277kg and 1 x 269 kg.

A reserved price will exist and will be sold on an ‘as is, where is’ basis. The cattle must be purchased all together. Any delivery charges after the purchase are to be borne by the buyer. No warranties are implied or given. Department of education reserves the right not to accept the tender.

All tenders are to be in a sealed envelope marked “Confidential – Offer for Brahman Cross Heifers” Attention: Business Manager, Gordonvale State High School, PO Box 66, Gordonvale 4865 or handed to the school office by 3pm on Thursday 7th December 2017. All tenders are to include the application form which can be found on our website at www.gordonvalehigh.eq.edu.au.

To view the cattle or for any further information please telephone Ashleigh Batterham on 4043 3220 or Trevor Graham on 4043 3224.

**YSC News**

So it would appear that this year has flown by just as quickly as the last one, and we’re finding ourselves at the end of Term 4... It’s been a busy year and this last term has been no different either. We have wrapped up the Breakfast Program for the year and are so very indebted to ALIVE Community Church for donating half of the bread, as well as volunteering their time every Tuesday morning to make cheese toasties alongside Mr. McKelvie. Absolute legends!!! Thank You so incredibly much!

Shout out also to Tracy and Kate from Uniting Care Communities, who ran a two day Peer Skills Training workshop for a select group of students from Year 10 and 11. The workshop aims to build on our students’ existing skills, to equip them to help themselves and each other with challenges they may be facing. I was incredibly proud of these students, as they participated fully and passionately in the workshop and are now ready to take on the world. It has been inspiring to see them tap into skills they didn’t know they had and emerge more confident in their ability. So again, massive thanks to Tracy and Kate for facilitating this positive and proactive program.

Oh, and we already have a name for our group. Henceforth we shall be known as: The Gordy Bureau of Hope.

Next step: T-Shirts

After that: Changing the world.

**Year 12 Hospitality**

Our students finished the year in style by designing and creating a unique celebration cake. Each was an expression of their personality and some were truly edible works of art. Amazing work.

**GSHS Uniform—Skorts available for 2018**

2018 sees the introduction of skorts to our GSHS school uniform range. They will be black with a teal slash across the bottom, and available in the same sizes and for the same price as our shorts. Order forms are available on our website.

Reminder—Our Year 6 into 7 Parent Information Evening is next Wednesday, 29th November from 6pm until 7pm here at Gordonvale State High School. Order forms for uniforms will be available here on the night.