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Term 4 Principal's Welcome

Principal's Welcome

Welcome to Term 4.

TERM 4 IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 4th October – Public Holiday

Thursday 7th to Monday 11th October – All Schools Touch Football Tournament

Friday 8th October – Year 10 SET Planning

Monday 11th to Friday 15th October – NAIDOC

Wednesday 13th October – Year 6 into 7 2023 Parent Information Session

Thursday 14th October – Student Leadership Ceremony

Saturday 16th October – Aquatics Boat/Jet Ski Licencing

Monday 18th October – P&C Meeting

Monday 18th to Friday 22nd October – Year 11 Exam Block

Monday 25th October to Tuesday 16th November – Year 12 External Exam Block

Tuesday 26th October – Year 7 Immunisations

Friday 29th October – Halloween Free Dress Day and Red Food Day

Tuesday 9th to Thursday 11th November – School Review

Monday 15th November – P&C Meeting

Tuesday 16th November – Presentation Evening

Friday 19th November – Red Food Day

Friday 19th November – Year 12 Graduation Ceremony & Final Day

Friday 26th November – Year 6 into 7 Transition Day

Friday 26th November – Years 10 and 11 Rewards Day

Friday 26th November – Final Day Years 10 and 11 & Final Day

Tuesday 30th November – Year 9 Japanese Excursion

Wednesday 1st December – Year 5 Open Day (Technologies)

Friday 3rd December – Year 7 Science Excursion and Year 8 Japanese Excursion

Thursday 9th December – Year 7, 8 and 9 Rewards Day

Friday 10th December – Final day of school

Please note these dates and events are subject to change without consultation.

QUADRENNIAL SCHOOL REVIEW

In 2022, Gordonvale State High School will be participating in a Quadrennial School Review as part of the Department of Education's planning, performance and improvement cycle. This review involves:

- analysis of student and school outcomes against performance measures and indicators
- reviewing performance trends from available data
- assessment of the achievements of the previous Strategic Plan
- consideration of previous School Plan priorities requiring renewed focus

- re-examination of the school context, curriculum, pedagogy, student diversity, workforce,
- consideration of all resources within the context of school planning
- consideration of the strategic plan of the department.

The Quadrennial School Review committee will comprise of a representative from the following groups:

- Principal
- Deputy Principals
- Heads of Department
- Teachers
- Ancillary staff
- Students
- Parents
- Community

We are now seeking expressions of interest for a parent and community representative to form a part of this committee. The commitment may include attending and participating in committee meetings throughout 2022. If you are interested in this position or discussing this further, please contact me at the school on 4043 3222 or at hmurr31@eq.edu.au

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT REVIEW

As part of our Quadrennial School Review, the Education Improvement Branch (EIB) will be conducting a full school review. The review is based on the National School Improvement Tool (NSIT). This document is attached to this newsletter for your perusal.

Full school reviews are conducted by a review team appointed by the EIB in consultation with the school and region. Generally, full school reviews take up to three days depending on the school's size and complexity.

The review team will look at the school's performance data and other relevant information. They will also talk to the Assistant Regional Director, staff, students, parents and other members of the school community.

At the completion of the review, the review team will present its findings to the school in a written report. This report will be shared with the school and wider community in staff meetings, P&C meetings and on the school website.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

It is with great pleasure that I introduce our Student Leaders for 2021/2022. I would like to congratulate all students on their successful applications. I look forward to working with them over the next year.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our outgoing Student Leaders for their contribution to the school over the past year. It has been an absolute pleasure working with you.

VIRTUAL REALITY

Gordonvale State High School is proud to work with Bentley Park College and Woree State High School to develop immersive pedagogy and embed Virtual Reality into the curriculum. Recently, the Department of Education visited

Cairns and created an episode for EdTV to showcase how we are working together to create unique teaching and learning experiences for our students.

[Please click here to view](#)

BARBER SHOP AND PROGRAM

I am very excited to announce that the school has secured funding to create a Barber Shop and Program on site from 2022. I would like to thank Mr Rob Hodge, Transition Pathways Officer, for his vision and persistence in creating this opportunity for our students. We look forward to providing you more information towards the end of this year.

FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT

Over the recent school holidays, the school had some significant work completed, including:

- a new roof installed on the Library and P03/P04.
- 5 general classrooms in A Block internally painted, new carpet and pinboards installed and new desks and chairs installed.

Renovations also commenced in the Administration Building. This work included an internal paint, installation of new carpet in some areas, installation of two security doors in the parent foyer and the internal construction of four offices.

Over the next few weeks, there will be some disruptions to the operations of the Administration Building as new cabinetry is installed in the office area. We will advise parents of the changes and timing closer to the installation date.

Over the next few weeks, a new electronic sign will be installed at the front of the school.

Over the Christmas holidays, the vinyl flooring will be removed and new carpet and vinyl will be installed in the Administration Building and Blocks A, B C and H will be externally painted.

It is great to see such significant facilities work occurring across the school to improve the teaching and learning environments for staff and students.

HOMEWORK CENTRE

Gordonvale State High School facilitates a Homework Centre on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:00pm to 4:30pm. Students can leave early with the permission of their parent/carer. Please indicate the time out on the registration form.

The Homework Centre is a free service for students from Gordonvale State High School. A healthy snack will be provided for students each afternoon.

The Homework Centre program is designed to:

- support students to develop good study habits and provide additional learning time for students with their peers;
- support students' learning, development and engagement in school;
- forge strong and supportive links between home and school; and

- ease the burden on students and parents by providing a supervised and supportive setting away from home to complete homework tasks.

The Homework Centre is supervised by teacher aides. Teacher aides will not replace any aspects of classroom teaching including instructional support, personalised tuition or academic support. Teacher aides will support students to complete homework tasks set by teachers and complete study, revision and assessment.

Maths teachers may be available to support students on Tuesday afternoons. English teachers may be available to support students on Thursday afternoons

The Homework Centre program is voluntary.

Students will not be able to attend the Homework Centre without registering. Parents/carers can register their child/children by completing a registration form (available from the office or Library) and returning it to the school office. A separate registration form must be completed for each child. This registration process is for the remainder of 2021. Students can also attend the Homework Centre casually. To register casual attendance, please contact Mechelle Zucco on 4043 3222 or mzucc2@eq.edu.au.

Teacher aides mark a roll each afternoon and parents/carers will receive a text if their child/ren is not in attendance.

As this is a school activity, students will not be permitted to use their mobile phones during this time. If you need to contact your child/ren during this time, please call the school office.

If you have any questions regarding the Homework Centre, please contact Mechelle Zucco. On 4043 3222 or mzucc2@eq.edu.au.

ATTENDANCE

Research indicates that for students to achieve quality educational outcomes, they need to attend school each and every day. Low school attendance is commonly associated with lower academic achievement, leaving school early and decreased opportunities for future employment. Every day counts and this year we will be focussing on continuing to improve student attendance.

What can you do to support your child in attending school?

Parents can support their child in attending school regularly by:

- attend school events in order to develop a relationship with the school and your child's teachers;
- read the school newsletter;
- supervise homework;
- ask your child about their day .

Are you having problems getting your child to attend school for some of these reasons?

- staying up to late at night?
- difficulty getting out of bed in the morning?
- unable to find their uniform, school bag, books, etc. ?
- slow to eat breakfast?
- failure to complete their homework?
- assessment is due?
- watching TV?
- they want to go shopping?
- it's their birthday?

If so, a set routine can help:

- have a set time to go to bed and get out of bed;
- organise their uniform and school bag ready the night before;
- set a time for starting and finishing breakfast;
- set a time for daily homework activities including assessment;
- speak about school positively;
- be firm, send your child to school each and every day.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Book Week Free Dress Day

TUCKSHOP

P&C

Executive Vacancies

The P&C currently have vacancies for the positions of Vice President and Secretary If you are interested in becoming involved in the school community we would meeting we love to see you at our next P&C meeting.

Next Meeting

The next P&C meeting is on Monday 18 October in the Library at 6:00pm. I look forward to seeing you there.

Ms Heather Murry - Principal



Deputy Principal Curriculum – Warren Brown

I have just finished emailing all Year 11 and 12 students to advise them as to how they are tracking towards attainment of their QCE.

Year 12 QCE tracking and final assessment

Year 12s are almost at the end of their QCE journey. For most of them it is now a case of making sure they attend school every day and give their last assessment task their best shot. Don't fall at the last hurdle!!!



For Year 12 students in General Subjects most results have now been confirmed and I have emailed them their results. They can also view them for themselves on the [myQCE website](#). This means that as they go into their External Exams they can see how many marks they have out of 75 (or 50 for Maths and Science subjects).

External Exams commence on Friday 22 October. Students have received their exam timetable. They have practiced in the mock exams. They have received feedback from their mock exams. Now they are ready to go for it.

Remember, it is our expectation that Year 12 students attend school every day up until Friday 19 November. There is a lot of other Year 12 assessment going on besides the External Exams.

If a Year 12 student is away for any exam it is IMPORTANT that they contact the school and provide us with a medical certificate.

Year 11 QCE tracking – what can you do to improve your school outcomes?

Year 11 students have also received QCE tracking information. Of course they have a fair way to go, so are able to make significant changes to their QCE pathway.

If your student has been advised that their QCE may be at risk there is still a lot that they can do about it.

Are they attending school every day? School attendance is an important indicator of success towards a QCE.

Are they doing school work at home? Many of our students think that they don't need to do homework. This is not the case. To be successful in Year 11 and 12, students must engage in reviewing their class notes and attempting additional exercises and problems at home.

Are they in the right subject? Sometimes students are NOT on the right pathway. At the end of Year 11 there is still time to change subjects. You can collect a change of subject form from the main office or see Mr Brown. It is important to make sure students are in the subject that is right for them before year 12. In Year 12, Semester 1 and 2 count together towards the QCE. So students either get 2 QCE credits or none.

Year 11 students are almost finished some of their Certificate II courses.

Year 11 students in (VSK) Certificate II Skills for Work and Vocational Pathways or (VHS) Certificate II Health Support Services/Certificate II in Community Services have almost finished their certificate courses. Once achieved, this means they will have banked 4 or 8 credits towards their QCE. It also means they are going to have to select another subject for year 12. Mr Brown will be sending out a survey to these students shortly.

To be eligible for a QCE student must meet the following requirements:

<p>Set amount</p> <p>20 credits from contributing courses of study including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QCAA-developed subjects or courses • vocational education and training qualifications • non-Queensland studies • recognised studies. 	<p>Set standard</p> <p>Satisfactory completion, grade of C or better, competency or qualification completion, pass or equivalent.</p>
<p>Set pattern</p> <p>12 credits from completed Core courses of study and 8 credits from any combination of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core • Preparatory (maximum 4) • Complementary (maximum 8). 	<p>Literacy & numeracy</p> <p>Students must meet literacy and numeracy requirements through one of the available learning options.</p>

Mr Warren Brown - Deputy Principal (Curriculum)



Deputy Principal Student Services (Years 7, 9 & 11 and Curriculum) - Renee Krause

2021 Presentation Night



2021 PRESENTATION NIGHT

Celebrating student success ~ Academic ~ Sport

When:	Tuesday 16 November 2021
Where:	Gordonvale State High School Stadium
6:00pm	Junior Ceremony
7:00pm	Interval/Refreshments
7:30pm	Senior Ceremony



Academic, Sporting and Special Awards will be announced on the night.

Acknowledging our students' achievements in 2021

Gordonvale State High School's annual Presentation evening will be held on Tuesday 16 November. This year the event will be split into 2 ceremonies. Our Junior Ceremony for Years 7 to 9 will commence at 6:00pm and conclude at 7:00pm. We will have a half hour intermission where light refreshments will be served. Our senior ceremony for students in Years 10 to 12 will commence at 7:30pm and conclude at 9:00pm.

Applications for Special Awards closed at the end of last term. All students who have nominated for special awards will be required to attend the evening as award recipients will be announced on the night.

Academic awards are determined based on students' level of achievement in both Semester 1 and Term 3. Please see below for award criteria. In the coming weeks the list of academic award winners will be posted for students. Please encourage your student to check this list and see Mrs Krause if they have any queries.

	Academic Distinction	Academic Merit
Years 7,8,9 & 10	Distinction Awards are presented to students who have achieved 4 As and no less than Bs in ALL subjects in both semester 1 and term 3.	Merit Awards are presented to students who have achieved a combination of As or Bs in their subjects and not less than a C in two subjects across semester 1 and term 3.
Year 11 and 12	Distinction Awards are presented to students who have achieved a GPA of 4.5 or above and studying four or more general subjects.	Merit Awards are presented to students who have achieved a GPA of 3.6 – 4.4 and studying four or more general subjects.
Year 11 and 12	Recognition of Achievement Awards are presented to students who study applied subjects or three or less general subjects and have achieved a GPA of 4 or above.	
All Students	Personal Excellence Awards are presented to students who have achieved a GPA of 4.5 or above for effort and behaviour in all subjects for both semester 1 and term 3.	
All Students	Subject Awards these awards are presented to the top student(s) of each subject area. Students must achieve a B or greater in their subject area to be eligible for this award.	
GPA	Grade Point Average (GPA) Is calculated by adding all the numbered grades you received and dividing them by the number of subjects you have taken. A = 5 B = 4 C = 3 D = 2 E = 1 Example: 2 A's, 2 B's and 2 C = 24 divided by 6 (number of subjects) = GPA 4	

Renee Krause - Deputy Principal Student Services



Deputy Principal Student Services (Years 8, 10 & 12 and Curriculum) - Davida Laney

YEAR 12 LEAVERS WEEK

The final week of school for our Year 12 Students is quickly approaching. External exam schedules have been sent out to both students and parent/carers. It is extremely important that students need to be aware of the work required to complete final assessments for their subjects to successfully obtain their QCE.

Leading into these final weeks both students and parents need to ensure that attendance at school remains a priority as students are required at school every day. The temptation to take a few days off in the lead up to exams has a direct impact on students learning and their ability to maintain clearance. The school made a conscious decision to provide students with the support from their classroom teachers during their external exams as this has proven to be a valuable resource for students in preparing for their exams.

Leavers Week is the final week for our Year 12 students. During this week we have put together a number of events and

excursions to both prepare students for life post school while celebrating with their peers and staff as they reach the end of 13 years of schooling. Their final event is the Graduation Ceremony, this will be held on Friday, 19 November. Invitations with details of this event will be sent to students and parents Week 3.

For students to be eligible to attend all the activities during Leavers Week they must have clearance. Student are aware of this and need to ensure:

1. Fees - Text Hire fees and charges fully paid for 2021.
2. Text books – all texts books must be returned by the end of Week 6.
3. Attendance - Students must be present at school for 90%.
4. Behaviour – Students must demonstrate exemplary behaviour at school, no extended withdrawals or suspensions.
5. Academic - No outstanding assessments or exams.

Year 6 into 7 – Term 4 Transition Update

We have only a few weeks left of our 2021 Transition Program.

On Wednesday 13 October an Information Session was held for Year 5 parents from each of the feeder schools. Letters were sent to families in Week 1 advising them of this event. The purpose was to provide families with information about the school and details of our SUMMIT programs on offer in 2023.

A brief overview of these programs has been attached.

At Gordonvale we are very proud of the extensive transition program we provide to our feeder schools. The program is designed to help alleviate some of the anxiety around the uncertainty of what to expect when starting Year 7. To do this, the student transition team have organised school visits to spend time with Year 6 students talking to them about the different expectations as they enter secondary school.

Parents are a valuable part of the transition process. The transition team will engage with parents about the enrolment and transition process to ensure parents feel included and informed a number of parent sessions were held throughout Term 2 and Term 3. There are two more enrolment interview sessions planned for 2021 in Weeks 4 and 8. Students must be enrolled to attend this event. Details to book your enrolment interviews are listed below.

For any questions please contact the school.

Davida Laney - Deputy Principal Student Services

