Principal’s Report

Although incredibly hectic, it is a beautiful time of the year with so many activities on the school calendar.

Speech Night 2015 - Gordon West’s annual Speech Night was held on Tuesday evening of last week. All members of the school community were invited to attend.

Speech Night is an acknowledgement of not only academic excellence and sporting prowess but other qualities such as consistent effort and citizenship. Award recipients were from Year 1 to Year 6. Kindergarten have their own special certificates given out to them after the K-2 concert this Friday.

It was an appropriate time to farewell the school leadership i.e. School Captains and Prefects and invest the Captains and Prefects for 2016.

The Year 4 Festival Choir and the Year 6 Band had their final performances on the night and performed beautifully.

So that the length of Speech Night ceremony is not too arduous, larger groups that need acknowledgement such as Dance Groups, Concert Choirs and individual sports awards were congratulated at a special Commendation Awards assembly the following day.

School Councillors for 2016 were also invested at the Commendation Awards.

Given the standard of students attending Gordon West you can well imagine the level of competitiveness for each award. Not all children receive awards, as much as we would like this to happen. If children are performing to their personal best we consider that all are winners in the true spirit of Gordon West and I hope that you also take the time to reinforce this message with your children.

Over the course of the school year all children are acknowledged and receive awards either at class, grade or whole school level.

Congratulations to all recipients of awards at the Speech Night Awards Ceremony.

A big thank you to Miss Harper & Mrs Garland for such efficient organisation of the evening.

The Gordon West Gazette for 2015 will be sent home shortly. Once again this year’s edition is in full colour and is a wonderful overview of the activities for the year. Mrs Dutra and Miss Alam are to be congratulated on this great publication. The Gazette is an excellent keepsake for your child to look over in years to come and remember their time at Gordon West.
The K-2 Concert will be held this Friday with the younger members of the school community showcasing their many varied talents. Congratulations to all the students and their teachers who are involved in this lovely culmination to a successful year. Thank you to Mrs Guenther President of the Gordon West FRASC and her willing helpers for providing the morning tea.

**Dates for 2016:**

Wednesday 27th January 2016: Teachers resume  
Thursday 28th January 2016: Students Yrs 1-6 commence  
Wednesday 3rd February 2016: Kindergarten students commence

Please utilise the school website and mobile phone app as they are both very efficient methods of keeping track of what is happening in he school.

**Thank you to the staff of Gordon West** for their incredible professionalism and to all parents who have supported the school in so many ways over the course of the year. Congratulations to the children of Gordon West on their achievements over the past year. Semester 2 student reports will be sent home this week and provide a detailed overview of your child’s performance during this semester of which we are very proud.

**I would like to acknowledge Mr O’Keefe President of the Gordon West P&C** and his team together with Mrs Guenther President of the Gordon West FRASC and her team for their wonderful efforts in making Gordon West a great place to be.

**Parents are reminded that Thursday and Friday of next week are School Development Days with no students in attendance.**  
The Gordon West OSHC will be open on these days.

Thank you for another great year.

Have a wonderful Christmas vacation.

J Huckerby  
Principal

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**Kindy & Yr6 Buddy Art Craft Day**

Kindergarten had a great morning on Wednesday December 10 with their Year 6 buddies during their annual Art & Craft Day. The senior children organised all the activities with their buddies, which included painting, building, decorating and modelling. All the children enjoyed such a rewarding time with their buddies. What a fantastic way to end the year.
Holiday tennis clinics will be conducted at Gordon West Public School during the school holidays catering for beginners to advanced standards:

Clinic 1. December 17th-18th (Thurs-Fri) 9am-3pm $100
Clinic 2. December 21st-23rd (Mon-Wed) 9.30am-12pm $80
         9.30am-2.30pm $140
Clinic 3. January 18th-20th (Mon-Wed) 9.30am-12pm $80
         9.30am-2.30pm $140

Enquiries and enrolments to Scott 0414 554 612

Term 1 Tennis Lessons 2016
Enrolments are being taken for before and after school tennis lessons catering for beginners to advanced.

Enquiries to Scott 0414 554 612

What’s happening in the Library at Gordon West?

Last week the new Library software “Oliver” was implemented at our school. By now most children have been introduced to the process of logging on to Oliver at school so that they can also access it from home.
If you would like to view “Oliver” in action just get your child to log on to the student portal (www.det.nsw.edu.au) using their DET username and password.
The library is now closed for stocktake so we ask that all books be returned as soon as possible.

Many thanks
Lesley Pickup and Pat Robertshaw

Lost Property

Once again there is a rather large amount of lost property in the tubs outside the library.
Anything not collected by the end of week 10 will be donated to the uniform shop.

Lesley Pickup
Teacher Librarian
Uniform Shop

Thank you

A big **thank you** to all my volunteers, without you our uniform shop would not run at all!! A special thank you to **Ruth Jang** for all her organisation in looking after the Second hand uniforms and **Sharni Tucker** for the fantastic job she does in keeping the finances in check.

**Reminder** that the Uniform Shop is closed tomorrow (11th Dec) for stock take. All Flexischool orders received before 4.50pm Thursday 10th will be processed, anything later will be processed next year.

**Open the day before school starts**

We will be opening the day before school starts, Wednesday 27th Jan between 9 – 11am. If you place your order through Flexischools before Tuesday 26th 4.50pm you can pick them up during this time.

_Wishing you and your families a very safe and Merry Christmas._
Jess and Sehan would like to thank parents, students and teachers for all their wonderful support in buying raffle tickets.

It has been a dream come true making Nationals and representing NSW and Gordon West, an experience they will never forget.

Top marks for ballerinas from the Marion Fix School of Ballet.

Congratulations to Dannon Pichler, Janelle Chai and Laura Chappell who obtained excellent results in their recent ballet examinations.

The Marion Fix School of Ballet once again obtained a 100% pass rate.

Ballet classes are held at Gordon West Public School on a Tuesday from 3.30pm.

All tuition is conducted with individual interest and care from Marion from Pre-School age to Advanced.

Enrolments are now open for 2016.

Contact Marion on 9487 1821 or 0416 065 373
Email: marionfix@hotmail.com
26 November 2015

Gordon West Public School
146 Ryde Rd
PYMBLE NSW 2073

Dear Staff and Students

On behalf of all the Australians living with type 1 diabetes, I thank you for your time and dedication to fundraising for JDRF. Your contribution helps us fund medical research to improve lives and one day, cure type 1 diabetes.

At JDRF, we are creating a future where Type One will become Type None. We are focusing on creating an ongoing stream of life-changing therapies moving from development through to commercialisation that lessen the impact of T1D.

From investments into an Artificial Pancreas and Smart Insulin, research into beta cell encapsulation and restoration, and development of complications therapies and prevention treatments, JDRF is working to create a brighter future for people with type 1 diabetes. You can stay up to date with our most recent research achievements as well as community stories and news about JDRF on our website www.jdrf.org.au.

Thank you again for your dedication to fundraising for JDRF. Your contribution will help us on our journey to turn Type One into Type None.

Yours sincerely

[Signature]

Mike Wilson
Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director
JDRF Australia
News just in from the National Championships in Canberra:

Jess Maciver 2nd place in the multi-event & 5th place in long jump.
Sehan Samaragunarathna 9th place in discus, 2nd in the shot put relay & 4th place in long jump relay.

Well done to our Gordon West athletes!!