Welcome back to Term 2 where we have so many exciting events planned.

Hopefully your vacation was enjoyable.
For those of you who enjoy bike riding I can highly recommend Wollongong as an excellent holiday destination.
When Julia and I were holidaying in Berlin last year we thoroughly enjoyed the bike riding, restaurants and the accommodation at the Adina Apartments Hackescher Makt.
Coincidentally under two hours drive from Sydney we stayed in the same hotel group of Adina apartments, thoroughly enjoyed bike riding on the coastal tracks, eating out at great restaurants and visiting the beautiful hinterland scenery.
We are very fortunate to live in such a beautiful country.

Once again thank you for your support on School Development Day where a great deal was achieved firstly at a combined Turramurra Learning Community meeting at Warrawee Public School and then back at Gordon West Public School.
At Warrawee Dr Jane Hunter presented “High Possibility Classrooms”, a workshop to support innovative technology integration in the classroom.
Dr Hunter has kindly offered to visit Gordon West to follow up her presentation with further specific examples of how technology can be integrated into everyday teaching. Given the very innovative, exciting iPad program currently being implemented across the Year 4 classes we look forward to working with Dr Hunter on this specific program as well as with other school technology programs.

In the afternoon Mrs Percival and I presented an overview of the Department of Education and Communities Performance and Development Framework for Principals, School Executive and Teachers in NSW Public Schools.
The DEC is committed to attracting, inducting, developing and recognising a high performing workforce and the Framework developed jointly with the Teacher’s Federation provides simple adaptable information and tools that support principals, executives and teachers to sustain a positive and collaborative performance and development culture in their workplace.

Congratulations to Mrs Sheldon for organising our Anzac Ceremony last Friday.
Our student leaders for 2015 who conducted the commemorative service are certainly a confident, capable and highly motivated group who are setting such a fine example for their peers.
Will Key’s rendition of the Last Post and the Reveille was excellent.
The enormous sacrifice by Australian men and women service personnel over the past 100 years so that Australians can enjoy such personal and political freedoms was emphasised in the ceremony.
Thank you to the school community for your support of the school uniform policy as determined by the parents of Gordon West under the school’s Fair Discipline Policy. Children will wear full winter uniform from next Monday.

Adherence to a school uniform policy has many positive features in relation to developing school tone and school culture.

Thank you to Mrs Baxter and her many helpers in the Gordon West Uniform Shop for ensuring that uniforms are readily available for the school community.

Mrs Sutton and Mrs Dutra are very excited that their Gordon West Dance Group successfully auditioned for the Northern Sydney Dance Festival to be held at the Glen St Theatre later in the year. This is the first year that both of these teachers have been responsible for the Dance Group and they have many new ideas and are excited by the challenge.

We wish them all the best and look forward to the performances of this very talented group over the course of the year.

The Gordon West Annual Report for 2014 is now on the school website for your perusal. Thank you to everyone from the Gordon West school community who was involved in the preparation of this most comprehensive document. In particular I would like to acknowledge the enormous amount of work that Miss Harper our Deputy Principal has done in writing and collating many of the individual reports. Also a big thank you to Ms Papic for her role as the Annual Report editor. If you would like to discuss any aspect of the Annual Report please contact me.

The Gordon West School Plan for 2015/2017 is also on the website. We are very excited in relation to the three Strategic Directions chosen after consultation with the school community of students, parents and teachers. Ongoing feedback and consultation with all stakeholders will continue to guide and advance the implementation of the plan and determine our school’s future direction. Once again if you would like to discuss any aspect of the school strategic plan or any aspect of school organisation please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Congratulations to the School Planning Committee for this very exciting plan that hopefully will provide our students with the 21st century skills required to become successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active and informed citizens.

We welcome Mrs Jasmin Rudolph to Gordon West who will replace Ms Withinshaw as teacher of 2W. Mrs Rudolph and her class have also moved into a new demountable located behind the Administration building so it is a very exciting time for everyone involved organising a new classroom and having a new teacher. Mrs Rudolph looks forward to meeting the parents of 2W and welcomes parents dropping in to say hello. We are currently busy landscaping both demountables and installing a Touchscreen TV in 2W. We wish Mrs Rudolph a wonderfully successful time at Gordon West.

J Huckerby
Principal

Primary Ethics for 2015

Primary Ethics needs to recruit a new Ethics Coordinator, who will recruit Ethics Teachers and liaise with the school enabling ethics classes to be offered at Gordon West Public School.

Now that classes are started the Ethics Coordinator role only takes about an hour a week and primarily involves communication with the school and the teachers.

Primary Ethics is a not-for-profit organization and the NSW Department of Education authorised provider of ethics classes. The curriculum is inquiry based and children use dialogue and discussion to learn how to think about ethical matters through the give-and-take of reasoned argument. Trained and vetted volunteer teachers lead discussions.

If you would like to volunteer as the Ethics Coordinator at the school, or for any more information Primary Ethics please go to www.primaryethics.com.au or contact Alisa Pham, the North Shore Region Manager on 0432 359 135 or at northshore-region@primaryethics.com.au.
Grandparents and Special Guest day

Wednesday 27th May is Gordon West’s GRANDPARENTS and SPECIAL GUESTS’ DAY

Kindy, Year 1 and Year 2 parents are catering and serving refreshments on the day!!

We would greatly appreciate donations of the following:
Milk, Cakes, Muffins, Slices, Biscuits (nut free), Sandwiches.

We will also need lots of volunteers to help set up, serve and pack away. If you are able to assist please email Sarah Daniels on sardaniels@gmail.com

FRASC meeting
Like to be more involved in the school? Come along to the Fund Raising and Social Committee meeting this Friday May 1 at 2pm in the Special Projects room (next to the Library).

SAVE THE DATE!
Family Photos
Outdoor family photo portraits Saturday 15 & Sunday 16 August

Gordon West Movie Afternoon
Our highly anticipated annual movie afternoon is on Saturday 20 June from 2.30pm at Roseville Cinemas, Roseville. Come and see the latest movie from Pixar Inside Out.
This fabulously entertaining movie presents a deeply humane, high-concept look at life, youth and the complex beauty of nostalgia.

Please look out for the flyer in the next bulletin or contact Wendy Hawkins on 8901 3007 or at wendyhawkins293@gmail.com for more information.

CAKE DAY...YUM!

Kindy and Year 4 are catering for Cake Day this term on Tuesday 19 May. If you are able to assist please contact your class parents with your name, class and the time you can help or contact Vanessa Spanswick directly at aspanswi@bigpond.net.au. Your help will be appreciated.
Our canteen menu has gone through some changes lately, as we are moving towards a healthier menu! On Fridays we have a new item, Pasta Salad.

You have three choices, chicken, tuna or plain vegetable. Ingredients: pasta, sweet corn, green peas, red capsicum, grated carrot, a bit of mayonnaise.

**Coming soon:**
We will be trialling new morning tea items, starting over the next few weeks. They include:

- Pumpkin-cinnamon Muffins
- Vegetable Frittatas
- Chicken and Vegetable Soup.

All made freshly onsite!

Any questions or suggestions, please contact me through email satu.piispa@gmail.com

Warm regards,
Satu Piispa,
Canteen Manager
STUDENT NEWS

Congratulation to the following students who have completed the Premier’s Reading Challenge

Liam Broome KS
Jayden Choi KZ
Amy Jung KS
Oliver Amiss 1P
William Bruce 1F
Jean Cho 1P
Jian Jung 1W
Nathaniel Mystakidis 1F
Junhee Seo 4M
Sacha Littlemore 1P
Eleanor Bock 3T
Tima Ialovega 3A
Zachary Jang 3H
Hamish Rankin 3A
Mikayla Fung 4/5S
Sophia Bock 1S
Charlotte Fowler 2S
Daniel Keith 4R

Pictured in the above article from the North Shore Times are Gordon West students: William McCotter, Jaye Daniel, Max Maciver & Blake Kramer.
Kids!! Have fun learning to speak Mandarin

Mandarin Language Club at Gordon West Public School!

The Mandarin Stars program offers:
- Small class sizes.
- FUN, engaging and highly interactive Mandarin classes for non-native learners.
- An immersion based program that teaches strong listening and speaking skills in Mandarin.
- Language building activities such as role play, puppet shows, puzzles and games.
- A fun introduction to reading & writing Chinese characters!
- The discovery of Chinese culture, festivals, Calligraphy, Tai Chi and even Kung Fu!

Classes on Tuesday afternoons
3:15pm – 4:00pm for K- Yr2 Students
4:00pm – 4:45pm for Yr 3-6 Students

Please contact us directly &
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www.mandarinstars.com.au ★ enrol@mandarinstars.com.au ★ Ph: (02) 8437 2498

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Elizabeth Chernishov, Go4Fun parent

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