DEPUTY PRINCIPAL REPORT

The school has experienced a very busy and positive start to the term. Thank you to our parent community for assisting with having students in correct uniform, resources supplied and arriving to school before the bell. Such support contributes to a positive school experience for your son/daughter.

Welcome to our new families and we trust you will enjoy a positive schooling experience for your child with Henry Kendall High School. Please acquaint yourself with key personnel in our school who are here to assist you in supporting your child’s education:

- **Years 7, 9 & 11**: Deputy Principal (Rel) Mrs Natalie Wearne
- **Years 8, 10 & 12**: Deputy Principal Mrs Donna James
- **Year 7 Adviser**: Mr Jason Morris
- **Year 8 Adviser**: Ms Tricia Muscat
- **Year 9 Adviser**: Mr Michael Mellish
- **Year 10 Adviser**: Mr Blake Wawrzyk
- **Year 11 Adviser**: Ms Gae Hobson
- **Year 12 Adviser**: Mr David Ardley
- **Head Teacher Student Services (Rel)** Mrs Tracy Smith
- **Attendance Supervisor**: Mrs Joan Anderson

All staff can be contacted through the front office on 4325 2110.

Handy App: The NSW DEC have released a free app called “School A to Z’. The website for this is [www.schoolatoz.com.au](http://www.schoolatoz.com.au) if you can’t download the app. The site offers a large amount of information in regards to Maths, English, Technology, Assignments and Curriculum. Please take the time to have a look at what this site has to offer.

So far this term the school has offered information nights for Year 11 and Year 7, and incoming years with the 4, 5 and 6 night this week. Please keep an eye on our school calendar (available on the school website) for key events such as these. At certain times an SMS reminder will be sent out to relevant parents. Please contact the school with any queries.
With the unpredictable weather at present, a reminder to parents that **hooded jumpers are not a part of our school uniform**. School jumpers and jackets are available at Lowes Gosford for purchase. If your son/daughter does not have access to a school jumper as yet please ensure a note is brought in by them for a uniform pass until you are able to secure the correct jumper. Thank you to all parents for your ongoing support in this area.

*Mrs Donna James – Deputy Principal*

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**FROM THE YEAR 10 ADVISER**

In January this year, four Year 10 students attended a two night seminar at the Narrabeen Sport and Recreation Camp. Owen Butterworth, Bailey Hogan, Ashleigh Eady and Peta Ralph were selected by the school to take part in the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment. As part of the program, Owen, Bailey, Ashleigh and Peta, as well as 80 students from other schools learned about leadership qualities, team work strategies and goal setting as well as making many new friends during the two days.

On Tuesday 16 February, Mrs James and I were invited to attend the Gosford North Rotary Benefactors and Beneficiaries Presentation Night where our four students were involved in giving a presentation to the Rotary Club members and guests. They should be commended not only on their successful completion of the program, but also the mature way in which they held themselves at the Presentation Night. Well done Owen, Bailey, Ashleigh and Peta.

*Mr Blake Wawrzyk – Year 10 Adviser*

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**SYDNEY NORTH BLUES**

At the recent Sydney North Regional Blues dinner two of our students received Blues for outstanding achievements in their chosen sport.

Jarrod Lynch received his Blue for Waterpolo. He has been an outstanding Goal Keeper in both school and out of school sport representing at Regional, Country and State level competitions and he is very deserving of this award. We wish him every success in his future endeavours.

The second recipient is Adam Moyle of Year 11 in the sport of Athletics. Adam has achieved outstanding results in the Para Athlete 100m and 200m events winning Gold and Silver medals at CHS as well as competing at CHS Cross Country. We wish him another successful season competing for Henry Kendall High School.

*Mrs Julie Starkey - Sports Organiser*
SCHOOL SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Congratulations to all of the students who attended and participated in Monday’s carnival. It was a very colourful and busy day with lots of fine performances by our swimmers. Year 12 were dressed up in their finest but were unfortunately unable to defeat the staff in the Staff versus Students relay.

The team to compete at Zone Swimming will be posted this week. It will be held at the Peninsula Leisure Centre on Thursday 5 March.

The 2015 Swimming Age Champions are:

12yrs  
Jarrod Parker  
Finlay Flaherty

13yrs  
William Day  
Katalena Abarca

14yrs  
Karl Suczynski  
Jaid White

15 yrs  
Harrison Whitney  
Georgia Riley

16yrs  
Tyler Gunn  
Jessica Davies

17yrs+  
Matthew Cuthbert  
Sienna Inglis

Congratulations to those students. The winning house was Araluen.

Mrs Julie Starkey – Sports Organiser

YEAR 10 PHOTOGRAPHY

In 2014, Mr Clift's Year 9 Photography class have been investigating a range of different photographic styles and building their skills in SLR photography as well as digital manipulation and editing of images. In Term 1 we were looking at Portraiture and how to avoid taking cliché photos of other people. Term 2 saw us working outside on Macro Nature Photography - getting up close to our environment and capturing high resolution detail. In Term 3 we had a lot of fun working on Trick and Illusion Photography where the students had to investigate ways of making things appear unrealistic, both within the camera and also by using Photoshop to edit photos. These photos are some of the many fantastic examples of the talent we now have in Year 10 Photography and we're very proud to have these displayed in the office foyer.
In 2015 we are currently looking at Photography in Advertising and the Media, plus we will move into Film and Wet Photography in our fully functioning Dark Room. Students have indicated a desire to do more digital video work, so later in the year we are hoping to run a short film festival utilising portable devices (ie. DSLRs, smartphones and tablet computers, etc.) to film and edit a collection of student directed projects. Photography is available in Stage 6 as a Board Endorsed Course and we highly encourage any interested students to seriously consider this as a HSC option. It is also possible to complete the Stage 6 Visual Art course with a focus on Photography.
Need help managing stress or anxiety?

If your child or teen has difficulties with anxiety or just seems to have too many worries, we would like to introduce you to BRAVE Self-Help – an interactive, online program for the prevention and treatment of childhood and adolescent anxiety. It was developed by a group of researchers from the University of Queensland and now, with the support of beyondblue, this program is now freely available to all young people aged 8-17 years old who are living in Australia. BRAVE Self-Help provides strategies for children and teenagers to better cope with their worries. There are 4 programs available, one for children aged 8-12 years, one for teenagers aged 12-17 years and one for parents of children at these ages respectively. The program can be accessed as often as you like, from the comfort of your own home.

For more information, or to register for the program, please visit www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au

School Counsellor – Mrs Liane Porter, MAPS

Free lower limb assessment

The University of Newcastle Podiatry Clinic at Wyong hospital is offering children age 0-17 free lower limb assessments. Children will be assessed by final year students, supervised by a podiatrist. Children and their families can receive advice on footwear and normal development, and receive treatment of foot warts, foot and leg pain, walking problems, and night-time ‘growing pains’.

When: Mondays from 2.15 to 4.15pm from 2nd March to 25th May 2015
To make a booking, or for more information, call 43947280
Compulsory School Attendance
Information for parents

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

What are my legal responsibilities?

Education in New South Wales is compulsory for all children between the ages of six years and below the minimum school leaving age. The Education Act 1990 requires that parents ensure their children of compulsory school age are enrolled at, and regularly attend school, or, are registered with the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards for homeschooling.

Once enrolled, children are required to attend school each day it is open for students.

The importance of arriving on time

Arriving at school and class on time:

• Ensures that students do not miss out on important learning activities scheduled early in the day
• Helps students learn the importance of punctuality and routine
• Give students time to greet their friends before class
• Reduces classroom disruption

Lateness is recorded as a partial absence and must be explained by parents.

What if my child has to be away from school?

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

• being sick, or having an infectious disease
• having an unavoidable medical appointment
• being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
• exceptional or urgent family circumstance (e.g. attending a funeral)

Following an absence from school you must ensure that within 7 days you provide your child’s school with a verbal or written explanation for the absence. However, if the school has not received an explanation from you within 2 days, the school may contact you to discuss the absence.

Principals may decline to accept an explanation that you have provided if they do not believe the absence is in the best interest of your child. In these circumstances your child’s absence would be recorded as unjustified. When this happens the principal will discuss their decision with you and the reasons why.

Principals may request medical certificates or other documentation when frequent or long term absences are explained as being due to illness. Principals may also seek parental permission to speak with medical specialists to obtain information to collaboratively develop a health care plan to support your child. If the request is denied, the principal can record the absences as unjustified.

Travel

Families are encouraged to travel during school holidays. If travel during school term is necessary, discuss this with your child’s school principal. An Application for Extended Leave may need to be completed. Absences relating to travel will be marked as leave on the roll and therefore contribute to your child’s total absences for the year.

In some circumstances students may be eligible to enrol in distance education for travel periods over 50 school days. This should be discussed with your child’s school principal.
My child won’t go to school. What should I do?

You should contact the principal as soon as possible to discuss the issue and ask for help. Strategies to help improve attendance may include a referral to the school’s learning and support team or linking your child with appropriate support networks. The principal may seek further support from the Home School Liaison Program to develop an Attendance Improvement Plan.

What might happen if my child continues to have unacceptable absences?

It is important to understand that the Department of Education and Communities may be required to take further action where children of compulsory school age have recurring numbers of unexplained or unjustified absences from school.

Some of the following actions may be undertaken:

- Compulsory Schooling Conferences

You may be asked, along with your child, to attend a Compulsory Schooling Conference. The conference will help to identify the supports your child may need to have in place so they attend school regularly. The school, parents and agencies will work together to develop an agreed plan (known as Undertakings) to support your child’s attendance at school.

- Application to the Children’s Court – Compulsory Schooling Order

If your child’s attendance at school remains unsatisfactory the Department may apply to the Children’s Court for a Compulsory Schooling Order. The Children’s Court magistrate may order a Compulsory Schooling Conference to be convened.

- Prosecution in the Local Court

School and Department staff remain committed to working in partnership with you to address the issues which are preventing your child’s full participation at school. In circumstances where a breach of compulsory schooling orders occurs further action may be taken against a parent in the Local Court. The result of court action can be the imposition of a community service order or a fine.

What age can my child leave school?

All New South Wales students must complete Year 10 or its equivalent. After Year 10, and up until they reach 17 years of age, there are a range of flexible options for students to complete their schooling.

Working in Partnership

The Department of Education and Communities recognises that working collaboratively with students and their families is the best way to support the regular attendance of students at school.

We look forward to working in partnership with you to support your child to fulfil their life opportunities.
Gosford Rugby Club

ABN: 80 909 613 736
PO Box 2269 Gosford NSW 2250

COME PLAY RUGBY FOR GOSFORD!
A great family club where you can play in a fun, safe and friendly environment. Registration fees include shorts, socks and training shirt - discount for siblings.

REGISTRATION DATES:
Every Saturday in February we will be taking registrations at various locations. Please see our website for more details -

Saturday 22nd February
West Gosford McDonalds & Wyoming Shopping Centre 10am – 2pm

Saturday 28th February
Wyoming McDonalds & Gosford Showground 10am – 2pm

Not sure about playing rugby? Come along to our “Come & Try” Nights on Friday 20th & 27th February from 5-6pm at the Gosford Showground.

Contact Details
www.gosford.rugbynet.com.au
Andrew – 0417 288 445
Or
Kate – 0411 094 859
The Central Coast Club with the most premierships in 2014!

Gosford Tigers

Home Ground Adcock Park, West Gosford

2015 Registration Day
11am – 1pm Sunday 1st March 2015
Located in the Tasman Room Gosford RSL

We Play Sunday Footy
Auskick (Boys and Girls 5-8 year olds)
Boys: U9’s, U11’s, U13’s, U15’s, U17’s
Youth Girls: U14’s, U18’s

Special team for children with disabilities starting this year.

For further information please contact
Kelly Mott on 0425 267 665
Or head to play afl.com.au