Dear Gosford East Families,

A big thank you to the SES workers and the Whitmore family for organising our trees to be trimmed and the removal of the branches.

What a wonderful start to 2013! I had a meeting today (Wednesday 13th Feb) with staff and was reassured the transition to new classes and playground behaviour was a calm and peaceful one and our children are settling in well. Thank you for supporting this, as I know some children find change a challenge. On all my walks around I have nothing but praise for your children who are polite and respectful at all times. 99.9% of our children always do the right thing, but some little people are learning and make mistakes. We always give a warning and try to help them to get on track. We all make mistakes even as adults and everyone deserves a chance.

We look forward to providing our students with a diverse range of learning opportunities and many wonderful memories of their development.

Thank you to Mr Emery and all staff, parent helpers and children who contributed to making our Swimming Carnival such a great success under some difficult weather conditions. A reminder to all parents that all children are expected to participate in all school events between 9am and 3pm. This is a legal requirement by law. If for some reason your child can not attend through ill health, you are required to get a certificate from an appropriate medical authority. If children don’t have this authority they will be marked on rolls as absent without reasonable certification or reasonable explanation. I have been led to believe that novelty events are provided for non-swimmers and I witnessed that this year. If your child was not present on carnival day then a certificate is required or a letter from you explaining why. If for some reason your child cannot attend school events and it is not through ill health, they must still come to school and alternate arrangements will be made for them.

Last week we welcomed 56 new Kindergarten students to our school. To you we extend a special welcome and wish you a happy and long association with our school. All of our new students coped very well with the new routine of “big school”. Most, waving goodbye to parents without hesitation. When I visited their classroom mid-morning they were happy and comfortable in their new environment. Congratulations to their parents for the preparations you have made over the last six months to have them so ready. Special thanks also must go to Ms Conry, Ms Edwards and Ms Scott for their efforts to ensure that the children in their care continue to remain happy and secure. Kindergarten will spend the next few weeks getting to know their new environment, making lots of friends and establishing routines and learning new things.

EXTRA STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY 2013: As reported in the news last year, NSW schools have been provided with an extra staff development day (pupil free day) in 2013. The extra staff development day will be on Tuesday 30th April 2013. This day has been provided so that schools can prepare for the implementation of the National Curriculum. This means that for 2013, Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th April (Term 2) families will need to make alternate arrangements for their children on these two days. Students will return to school on Wednesday 1st May.

The Gosford East newsletter is distributed each Tuesday. Office staff have a significant administration task distributing and collating this each week and they ask that if you wish something to be considered for the newsletter, that it reaches the office no later than Friday morning 9am.
Classes 2013: The formation of classes is a lengthy and complex process. We initially thought that we would have to form 11 classes this year, but with additional enrolments we have been able to form 12 classes and give each stage some breathing room. Thank you for your patience with this and thank you to Mrs Boyd and Ms Conry for making the transition run so smoothly. We are fortunate to be able to employ Mrs. Tanya Burke to this class.

I would also like to welcome quite a few new staff that have come on board this year. Ms. Jodie Campbell (Assistant Principal Relieving) Stage 3, Mr Ben Wilkinson (Assistant Principal Relieving) Support Unit, Miss Lara Middleton 5-6M, Ms Margaret Swanson LAST, Mrs Liane Porter School Counsellor.

2013 classes are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Teacher(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KC</td>
<td>Ms Belinda Conry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KE</td>
<td>Ms Tara Edwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS</td>
<td>Ms Bridget Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-4W</td>
<td>Mrs Margaret Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1F</td>
<td>Mrs Lauren Flynn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2T</td>
<td>Miss Christie Trigg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4E</td>
<td>Mr Mark Emery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-6M</td>
<td>Mrs Natalie Mclver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5-6M</td>
<td>Miss Lara Middleton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-3BE</td>
<td>Mr Ben Wilkinson (Support Unit Supervisor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-3B</td>
<td>Mrs Angela Boyd (Stage 2 Supervisor)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3-4T</td>
<td>Mr Rade Travica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4-5S</td>
<td>Ms Margaret Sansom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

School Learning Support Officers: Ms Alison Richards, Mrs Annitta Curtis, Mrs Sue Jenkins, Ms Kylie Bayliss, Ms Megan Raedler

Support Teachers: Ms Linden Connell (Reading Recovery), Mrs Lorell Masters (RFF), Ms Leah Frewin (RFF), Ms Margaret Swanson (LAST), Mrs Sue Callachor (ESL) and Ms Antonia Nagy (OOHC).

Office Staff: Mrs Julie Griffith (School Admin Manager), Ms Lyndall Brown, Mrs Diane Shapcott, Mrs Kate Wilson (Administrative Officers), Mr Terry Waters (General Assistant).

Anaphylaxis At our school we have students who are at risk of anaphylaxis if they come in contact with nuts. Please support us to keep these children safe by ensuring that you only send nut free food to school each day. This extremely serious allergy can be life threatening. If your child has any allergies which we are unaware of and/or you need to provide us with updated health information, please contact the school immediately.

Effective communication between home and school is crucial. A great opportunity will be available on Wednesday 20th Feb for all parents to meet their child’s teacher for an outline of the class routines and structures. I encourage all parents to avail themselves of this opportunity.

SUPPORT CLASSES: 5:00 - 5:30pm (K-3BE, K-4W, 3-6M)
ES1 AND STAGE 1: 5:00 - 5:30pm (KC, KE, KS, 1F, 1-2BU, 2T, 2-3B)
STAGE 2: 5:30 - 6:00pm (3-4E, 3-4T)
STAGE 3: 6:00 - 6:30pm (4-5S, 5-6M, 5-6W)

Warm regards,

Cherie Bourke
Gosford East Principal (Acting)
Dates for your calendar

REMEMBER - Canteen is always closed on Tuesdays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Every week</td>
<td>Student Banking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st Wednesday</td>
<td>Every month</td>
<td>P &amp; C meeting in staffroom 7:30pm – All Welcome!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Every week</td>
<td>Uniform Shop</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Every week</td>
<td>School Counsellor</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>Every week</td>
<td>School Assembly</td>
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TERM 1

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>20th February</td>
<td>Parent Information Evening</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(see item in newsletter for times)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>13th March</td>
<td>Brainstorm Years K – 6</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$6 due by Friday 8th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>24th March</td>
<td>Working Bee</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>10am – 2pm</td>
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NSW GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS
TERM DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1 2013</th>
<th>STUDENTS’ FIRST DAY</th>
<th>STUDENTS’ LAST DAY</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wed 30th January 2013 Yrs 1 – 6</td>
<td>Fri 12th April 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mon 4th February 2013 for new Kindy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 2 2013</td>
<td>Wed 1st May 2013</td>
<td>Fri 28th June 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 3 2013</td>
<td>Tues 16th July 2013</td>
<td>Fri 20th September 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term 4 2013</td>
<td>Tues 8th October 2013</td>
<td>Wed 18th December 2013</td>
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</table>
NEWSLETTER
From next week, the school newsletter will be going home on a Wednesday afternoon. It will be going home with the youngest child in your family.

PATHS AND GATES
Please ensure students are using the paths around the school for entry and exit each day. For the safety and security of students, gates must be closed behind you when entering or leaving the school grounds.

A reminder that the car park is not an access area, please **do not cross the car park.**

Students are not to use the driveway as an access point into the school grounds they must use the paths around the school.

CAR PARKS
Please remember there is no parent parking allowed in the school staff car parks. Also the car parks at the Skin Cancer Clinic and the Lions Club Community Hall are private property. These areas are patrolled daily by rangers and you will be fined if caught.

**Telephone Calls and Messages to Staff and Students**
School phones are attended from 8:30am to 3:30pm on school days.

**Staff messages:** Routine matters with teaching staff are best dealt with by notes which should always be signed and dated. More involved matters are best discussed face-to-face with teachers and appointments can be made by phoning the school office.

Urgent brief messages can be relayed to staff via the office however, teaching staff will not be available to come to the phone during normal lesson times. Please note that the Principal will always be available to discuss any matters of urgency, personal, confidential or of a worrying nature.

**Student messages:** It is requested that telephone messages for students be of an urgent nature only. Urgent brief messages may be telephoned to the school office and staff will relay them to the teacher or the child concerned. They should be received by 2:30pm to allow time for the message to be delivered to the classroom.

**SPARE CLOTHES**
We are in need of spare clothes for use in the office in sizes 4, 6 and 8. If you have any clothes that you could donate to the school for this year it would be greatly appreciated.

**VOLUNTARY SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS**
The voluntary school contribution has remained unchanged this year at $40.00.

While the school contribution is voluntary, these funds are used to purchase art, craft and other consumable items for individual use in classrooms. These items are not funded by the government but must come out of the school's budget.

This contribution can now be sent in via your child in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name, class and what the payment is for. Envelopes are available outside the school office near the Payment Envelope Box.

Thank you to all the families who assist the school with this contribution.

**PAYMENT ENVELOPES**
Payment envelopes are available at the parent desk outside the school office. Please use these envelopes to send in payments for your child. These envelopes should be returned with the correct money/cheque and the note sealed inside, with your child by the due date. Please ensure you put the child’s **full name** as it appears on their enrolment form and their class name.

**One envelope (and permission note) is required per child.**

Envelopes are then handed by your child to their teacher in class and sent to the Office for receipting. Receipts are sent back to the class for distribution by the classroom teacher each day. Alternatively, envelopes can be deposited in our Payment Envelope Box located near the Office. A table has been set up with blank envelopes and pens for easier completion, and the envelopes may then be deposited directly into the box. The envelopes have a section for credit card payments to be sent in and processed manually as well.

EFTPOS is still available in the office between 9am and 3pm.

Julie Griffith
School Admin Manager
PARENT INFORMATION EVENING

Our annual Parent Information Evening is on Wednesday 20th February. Please be aware that this is a general information night and individual interviews are not available on this night. An interview with your child’s teacher can always be organised directly through the class teacher or by placing a call to our school office. Times for the night are as follows:

SUPPORT CLASSES  5:00 – 5:30pm
K-3BE, K-4W, 3-6M

ESI & STAGE 1  5:00 – 5:30pm
KE, KC, KS, 1F, 1-2BU, 2T, 2-3B

STAGE 2  5:30 – 6:00pm
3-4E, 3-4T

STAGE 3  6:00 – 6:30pm
4-5S, 5-6M, 5-6W

Thank you
Class Teachers

SCHOOL PHOTOS

The school photographs are being taken on Tuesday 5th March. Students are to wear their full Summer Uniform. Photo payment envelopes are to be returned to class teachers no later than Tuesday 5th March.

If you would like a family photo please see the office for a family envelope or send a note in with your child requesting a family envelope.

Thank you
Linden Connell

SCHOOL ASSEMBLY FRIDAY 15th February

Caught You Being Good:
Zoe D 3-4T, Angel T 3-4T, Amante J 3-4T, Caitlin P 3-6M, Ashton W 3-4T, Mikayla H 3-4T, Jacinta C 3-6M, Bailey McC 2T

Quality Work Awards:

House of the Week:
Chakola is in 1st place, Kiara in 2nd, Warrimoo in 3rd and Carathool in 4th place.

News of Interest:
Swimming Carnival was on Monday. Everybody did a good job there. Age champions were:-
Jnr Boy  Theo O
Jnr Girl  Katie G
11yrs Boy  Rory P
11yrs Girl  Amy C
Snr Boy  Callum McI
Snr Girl  Miranda M

Other:
Warrimoo wins amount of points in Swimming Carnival.
Winning class is 3-4E.

From the students of 5-6W

Healthy Eating on a Budget – Meal Ideas
Part 1

Healthy eating doesn’t have to be expensive. With some clever meal ideas you can eat a healthy, balanced diet and save money at the same time. Try these tips:
• Plan meals in advance
• Plan meals around your vegies. Lettuce goes off much quicker than broccoli, so plan to have salads with your meals on the days immediately following your shop
• Avoid buying meals out of the home as they are generally more expensive - cook in bulk and freeze some leftovers to reheat for a quick lunch or dinner throughout the busy week

Healthy Eating on a Budget – Smart Shopping
Part 2

Healthy eating doesn’t have to be expensive. Here are some more smart shopping tips:
• Shop around e.g. your local butcher may have cheaper meat and farmers’ growers markets may have cheaper (and fresher) fruit and vegetables
• Purchase fresh fruit and vegetables when they are in season as they are generally less expensive and of better quality
• Take advantage of unit pricing bulk products are not always cheaper so compare the unit price
• Limit your purchase of “extra” foods such as cakes, biscuits, chips, soft drinks and desserts as they have limited nutritional benefits and are often packed with kilojoules

Produced by Central Coast Health Promotion Service and Nutrition Service
The Parents and Citizens Association will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 6th March.

The AGM will follow the normal monthly meeting and is expected to get underway around 8:00pm. All executive positions will be open for nomination. Everyone is welcome to attend.

If you would like to be a part of your school's P&C please come along and get involved. Everyone is very welcome.

Rebecca Nutley
Secretary P&C

SCHOOL BANKING
School Banking is every TUESDAY. You should have received a 2013 pack with information about the program and this year’s new reward items. This program is run at the school by volunteer parents.

For all new parents to the school, if you would like your child to participate in our School Banking Program they will need a Youthsaver account from the Commonwealth Bank. You can open this account at any branch. Take with you your child’s birth certificate and your own identification.

If you are an existing customer and have NetBank access you can open a School Banking account online. All existing bankers should remember to assist our volunteer mothers by writing your new class name on the front of your children's banking wallets.

A new range of rewards has been released for the new school year. Thank you for supporting the School Banking Program at GEPS.

Saving – a great habit to get into!

Mercedes Attwood
School Banking Coordinator

WORKING BEE - SAVE THE DATE
The P&C is holding another working bee on Sunday 24th March from 10:00am until 2:00pm. We will be doing a general garden tidy up, weeding, mulching, laying pavers, etc.

Please keep the date free and bring the kids along and help. Many hands make light work!!

IDENTIKID LABELS
For any families who are after labels for drink bottles, lunch boxes, pencils, etc, don't forget that we have a fundraiser code with Identikid Labels. Once you order your labels and are at the very end at the payment details there is a box that will ask for a four digit code. Our fundraiser code is 1279. Please support this fundraiser if you are thinking of ordering labels now or throughout the year.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB
In the final order for 2012 there was one book without a name attached. If you ordered a “Geronimo Stilton” book and didn’t receive it please contact the Office.

UNIFORM SHOP NEWS
The uniform shop is changing its opening hours. This week's opening hours will be Wednesday morning and Friday afternoon as usual but commencing Friday 22nd February it will only be open on FRIDAY mornings from 8:30am until 9:30am.

If you can't get to the uniform shop during this time you are still able to send your order in to the office with your credit card details or telephone me (0427 915 085) or Donna Ryan (0414 891 210) to organise a time.

Thank you
Tracey Hill
P&C

BUS PASSES
We are happy to inform you that replacement bus passes are now available to purchase online. Just visit our website at www.busways.com.au – select the Central Coast Region and School Bus Passes. Please pass this information onto any students or parents with enquiries as to replacing a lost bus pass.

Term bus passes for students who are not eligible for free travel are also available to purchase online at the same internet address/details as above.

Helen Lymbery
Office Assistant
Busways Group Pty Ltd
T 02 4368-2277
F 02 4368-2077
E receptiongosford@busways.com.au
Website www.busways.com.au
Twitter: @BuswaysGosford
There are many rituals and traditions associated with Lunar New Year. Sacrificing to ancestors is an important New Year’s tradition followed by a dinner for the ancestors shared by the living family.

This day aims to promote linguistic diversity and multilingual education and raise awareness of linguistic and cultural traditions based on understanding, tolerance and dialogue.

The Chinese Lantern Festival occurs on the night of the full moon of the lunar year. It is believed that spirits can be seen flying about on this night so people go out with lanterns to look for them. On this night children walk through the streets carrying lanterns.

Purim is the celebration of the Jews’ deliverance from genocide in Persia, where the Prime Minister Haman had vowed to exterminate them, around 470BCE.

Wyoming Narara Netball Club is looking for new players for the 2013 season. All ages are welcome to play. This year introduces a new program for the 5-7 year old age bracket. We are also looking for all ages, so Mums and older sisters, come and join a family run netball club. We will be holding registration at Adcock Park on Feb 9 between 10am and 12pm.

For more information visit our website www.wnnetball.com or email secretary@wnnetball.com or call Cheryl Hogan 0414 533 452
Hi Everyone

I hope that everyone enjoyed their Swimming Carnival rolls/salads and pancakes last week. Thank you goes to Cherie Jones for transporting the lunches to the pool for me and also to the “crack” team I had on Wednesday to help with the over 340 pancakes we had to top before recess – Michelle Mills, Kerrie Carlin, Julie Bryant & Jessica Fenney you were great.

Just a little reminder that hotdogs and burgers come automatically with sauce and it is included in the price. If you don’t want sauce or anything other than what is stated on the menu please write it on the order. If you would like sauce with a pie, sausage roll etc. these are the squeeze type and they are 30c each.

Please remember that change is sticky taped onto the front of the order bag for your child to see because if we put it in the bag it generally goes into the bin with the bag. If you don’t want your child to spend it then please write this on the bag or text on my number shown on the roster. I will then put it in a coin bag and give it to the teacher after lunch for them to give to your child before they go home.

Should there be any problem with your child’s lunch order please get them to see me on the day so that we can fix it up there and then.

I would like to congratulate everyone for the way your children behave when they are down at the Canteen. They are polite and do what is asked of them which make it easy to serve them.

Lastly I would like to thank the P&C for nominating me for NSW Canteen Manager of the Year for 2012 – I feel very honoured and loved. The presentation to the winner and runner up will be held in March so I will let you know how I go.

Thanks
Jo C
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Contact</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 20&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Feb</td>
<td>Vanessa Jones</td>
<td>Help pls 0414907968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thur 21&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Feb</td>
<td>Rowena Monroe</td>
<td>Help pls 0414907968</td>
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<td>Fri 22&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Feb</td>
<td>Wendy Whitmore</td>
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<td>Mon 25&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Feb</td>
<td>Julie Bryant</td>
<td>Help pls 0414907968</td>
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<td>Wed 27&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Feb</td>
<td>Kerrie Carlin</td>
<td>Help pls 0414907968</td>
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<td>Amanda Stanimirovic</td>
<td>Suzanne Piggott</td>
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<td>Kylie Ogston</td>
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<td>Michelle Mills</td>
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<td>Mon 18&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; March</td>
<td>Mercedes Attwood</td>
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<td>Donna Ryan</td>
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