

Gunnedah High School Newsletter



**Excellence
and
Innovation in
a Unique and
Caring
School**



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Welcome Parents/Caregivers to the Newsletter

We once again have been blessed! I received a letter from the Deputy Prime Minister, The Hon Julia Gillard, MP, last Thursday announcing that we have been successful in our application for the Science Lab refurbishments. Part of this letter is as follows:

"It is my pleasure to congratulate your school as a successful applicant under the Science and Language Centres for 21st Century Secondary Schools (SLC) element of the Australian Government's \$14.6 billion Building the Education Revolution (BER) program."

I then look at the attached website and found that we have been allocated \$1, 295, 830.00 for this upgrade. This will give the school four 'state of the art' Science Laboratories. We will receive three labs which will cater for normal Yr 7 – 12 experimentation work with a designated class room space within them, and one Physics and Microscopic Laboratory. We will also have a preparation room completely upgraded to support the new room.

The entire student body and staff are very excited about this redevelopment and an implementation plan needs to be completed before the end of July. I now know what I'm doing over the holiday break! Construction may start as early as Term 4 this year.

Could I personally congratulate the following students for reaching Gold Level, Justin Carter and Kayla

Smith. Also, a wonderful young lady in Yr 7 has achieved Platinum Level. She is Sarah Clark. This is truly a fantastic effort and congratulations to all three students for their achievement.

I would like to remind all Yr 12 students and their families that time is rapidly passing and their Trial Exams are scheduled from Monday 10th August to Monday 17th August. This is an incredibly important time for Yr 12 and they should be well into a study plan by now. If this is not the case, parents or students can contact Ms Wilkinson, Mrs Watson or myself and we will provide some assistance. It's now time for 'head down' for the run home.

I hope all students have a restful break and school will resume on **MONDAY 27th July**.

Until the next Newsletter

Rod Jones
Principal

P & C Association:

A reminder that the next P & C Association meeting will be held on **Wednesday 16th September 2009**, in the GHS library commencing at 7:00pm. The August meeting has been postponed due to Ag Quip. All parents/guardians, grandparents, carers and community members are welcome.

GHS Canteen Volunteers required:

GHS Canteen Supervisor, Mrs Sharon Newell, is sending out a call for 'volunteers' to assist in the operation of the school canteen during Term 3. Many hands make light work, so your urgent assistance is required. Contact Sharon on 6742 1110 during school hours.

GHS Uniform Shop:

If you have been waiting on any items of clothing we are now fully stocked. All orders have been filled. These can be picked up during normal shop hours:

Tuesday 8:00 – 10:00am

Thursday 1:00 – 3:00pm

If you have an outstanding layby (ie 6 week or more) can you please ring us on 67426939 during shop opening hours or on 0437052331 to let me know if the layby is still required and to arrange payments to suit. If we don't hear from you it will be returned to stock.

The new Winter Polo Fleecy Zip Jumper has arrived and is now available @ only \$39:95 each, and the new GH (Go Hard) 'school caps' are also available @ \$12:00 each.

The new GHS 'winter uniform' is now also available.

NB: School 'Tracksuits' are still available from the GHS main office @ \$90:00 each.

or Tracksuit Tops only @ \$55:00 each and Tracksuit Bottoms only @ \$35:00.

Diary Dates to Remember:

Gunnedah High School P & C Association will be holding their **"Back to Schooldays Celebration Ball"**:

Ok, everybody, get out your dancing shoes, it's time for the Back to Schooldays Celebration Ball, to be held at the Gunnedah Services & Bowling Club Auditorium on Friday 7th August, commencing at 8:00pm. Dress code is formal (coat & tie), with a 2 course dinner/sweets provided.

Special entertainment for the evening will be provided by Gunnedah's specially formed super-group The Toolies (Old Schoolies) featuring Dave Hart, Wayne Seach and Graham Ryman from the Zods, Dave Alexander and the incredible voice of Paul White, plus a few more surprises! This is a show not to be missed, so get your friends together, and come along for a night to remember.

Tickets: \$35:00 each. Table of 8 @ \$280: Limit of 16 tables and Table of 10 @ \$350: Limit of 8 tables.

For more information phone 6742 0155. Tickets will be available from Red Gums during school holidays.

2009 Athletics Carnival:

Congratulations to the members of Kaputar on winning the "battle of the houses" title at this years carnival with 480 points. Nandewar came in 2nd on 470, followed by Moombi with 436 points and

Illawarra on 401. Following a great day of hard fought competition, the Age Champions are as follows:

12 Years GIRLS		12 Years BOYS	
1 st	Katie Hunt	1 st	Hayden Smith
Runner up	Angela Varning	Runner up	Nikolas Smyth
13 Years GIRLS		13 Years BOYS	
1 st	Amia McDonald	1 st	Luke Curgenven
Runners up	Sarah Woodhouse & Lacey Davis	Runners up	Adam Curgenven & Kih McDonald
14 Years GIRLS		14 Years BOYS	
1 st	Hailey Affleck	1 st	Jarrod Revell
Runner up	Paige Oliver	Runner up	Zachary Guy & Lionel White
15 Years GIRLS		15 Years BOYS	
1 st	Stephanie Donnelly	1 st	Andrew Endicott
Runner up	Lauren Swain	Runner up	Joseph Botfield
16 Years GIRLS		16 Years BOYS	
1 st	Emilee Whitfield	1 st	Jake Vigor
Runner up	Emily Gardner	Runner up	Jack Byrnes
17 Years GIRLS		17 Years BOYS	
1 st	Tara Burns	1 st	Toby Noble
Runner up	Angela Abra	Runner up	Corie Watton

MS Readathon:

Due to popular demand, the MS Readathon reading period is now any 30 days in June, July or August 2009, with all completed forms, and sponsorship, to be returned by August 31st 2009. To register, click on to www.msreadathon.org.au or ask your teacher for more details.

School Fees:**Voluntary Contributions 2009**

Reminder: On the receipt of Tax Invoices for voluntary school fees from Gunnedah High School, payments can be made in three (3) term instalments at the GHS main office, or mailed to Gunnedah High School, Marquis Street, Gunnedah NSW 2380

Year 8 Excursion to Coffs Harbour:

Numbers for the Year 8 Excursion have been finalised. Any new names will be placed on a waiting list.

New England Regional Dance Festival:

Girls from Wednesday Sport dance group performed a show stopping performance during the recent New England Regional Dance Festival held at Tamworth Regional Entertainment & Conference Centre.

The girls who took part were:

Reanna Hill, Alli Korn, Kyrstal Lynch, Amia McDonald, Katie Norsworthy, Mikaela Pease, Kayla Smith, Sarah Dewit, Ashlee Haire, Lydia McCann, Hannah Riley, Taylah Riley, Jessica Sinclair, Charlee Smith, Lacie Johnstone, Tori-Jane Kent, Sam McAlpine, Dylan Cruickshank, Leeana Foster, Lisa Furner, Courtney Jordan, Ashleigh Murray, Kayla Sinclair, Shaune Southorne, Bridie Urquhart, Emillee Whitfield, Katie Eather, Alaura Bunce and Kimberly Smith.

Gunnedah High School opened the Thursday night, Saturday morning and Saturday night performances with Wiyathul, an Aboriginal contemporary dance. Kimberly Smith performed the 'Welcome to Country'.



Collins St 5pm performed to the song, Poker Face, which was a fast paced, energetic dance that had the audience spellbound. It was great to see Ms Lalla Jones' creative choreography displayed with full costume, lighting and effects.



Three girls, Ashlee Haire, Krystal Lynch and Reanna Hill, who recently attended the New England Regional Dance Camp, also performed with a regional ensemble on Friday night and Matinee to 'Halo' choreographed by a visiting instructor from Sydney.



GHS French Excursion:

Parents, students and teachers involved in the 2010 GHS Excursion to France have made a great start to their fundraising.

You will find us at the monthly markets selling Bacon and Egg Rolls, or out the front of Coles selling sausage sandwiches and delicious cakes and slices every 4th Saturday of the month. Parents have also been busy selling raffle tickets around town.

Next term, there are some exciting events being organised by the students.

We would like to congratulate the three winners of our raffles, and thank the community for their support. In particular, thank you to **Coles Supermarket**, for donating all the supplies for our sausage sandwiches, the **Rotary Club of Gunnedah West**, for lending us their food van to use at the markets, and **Namoi River Meats**, for donating a meat voucher.

Mr Marshall and Molly Batinic drawing the wood raffle at the markets on Saturday 20th June



Miss Emma Holdom busy selling cakes and slices out the front of Coles.

2009 NAIDOC Week: Festival of Champions

Parents, carers & relatives were invited to come along and enjoy our recent NAIDOC week of celebrations. The inaugural "Festival of Champions" was held each day at lunch time between 1:15 – 1:45pm and proved to be a great success.

Mon 6th July: Billy Boiling.

1st GHS Teachers.

Tue 7th July: Spear the Roo.

1st Year 12.

Wed 8th July: Didgeridoo Blowing (Males).

1st Year 9

Wed 8th July: Drum Making (Females).

1st Year 9

Thu 9th July: Paper War.

Fri 10th July: Obstacle Race.

Teams of 6 members, including a team from each school year (7 – 12), a Teachers team and a 'celebrity' Community team competed in each event to see which team would win the inaugural title of "NAIDOC Festival of Champions" to be presented in week 1 of term 3. We would like to thank Metaland, Gunnedah and Gunnedah Camping & Outdoor Centre for their support, and Mr Les Day and Mick Rowland for their incredible work on designing our NAIDOC Festival of Champions trophy.



Namoi Valley Partners in Learning:

One of the most important responsibilities for parents & carers is to provide our children with a quality education. Now, more than ever, our children's early learning skills set the platform for their future. In Gunnedah and the surrounding district, we are very fortunate to have ten (10) wonderful public schools that comprise the Namoi Valley Partners in Learning (NVPIL), all catering for our children's education from Kindergarten to Year 12. The schools that comprise the NVPIL include Gunnedah High School, Gunnedah Public School, Gunnedah South Public School, Boggabri Public School, Carroll Public School, Curlewis Public School, Mullaley Public School, Tambar Springs Public School, Premer Public School and Gunnedah's G S Kidd - SSP.

NVPIL schools, large and small, work together to offer children of the region the quality education that they require, and every parent desires for their child. With highly qualified and dedicated teachers providing challenging & stimulating learning environments to nurture the individual talents of all students and develop strong academic skills, our safe & caring NVPIL schools also provide the opportunity to explore a wide range of arts, sporting, community and cultural activities, including indigenous heritage.

To assist students, parents & carers in the progression of their school endeavours, the Namoi Valley Partners in Learning has a very successful 'schools transition' program in place that provides all concerned with an early insight into the content of the subjects, classroom environment, timetables, cultural and social variations that their child may experience when changing schools. The bottom line is that all NVPIL schools aim to provide their students with a quality education, in a safe & secure environment, that will lead the way to excellence, opportunity & success in the future.

As part of the launch of the Namoi Valley Partners in Learning, the NVPIL launched their 2009 Art Show at the Gunnedah Creative Arts Centre on Friday night 3rd July. The student art, from all the participating NVPIL schools, will now be on display until the 26th July 2009. Admission is free.

Year 7**Platinum****Gold**

Platinum			
Sarah Clark			
Gold		Gold	
Sarah	Clark	Kayla	Smith
Justin	Carter		
Silver		Silver	
Courtney	Brandon	Mathew	Gillham
Paris	Bartlett	Matthew	Martin
Justin	Carter	Kayla	Smith
Alex	Koeing	Kimberly	Wilkinson
Alli	Korn	Krystal	Lynch
Mikaela	Pease		
Bronze		Bronze	
Mollie	Affleck	Hannah	Langdon
Adam	Bilsborough	Krystal	Lynch
Alex	Boyd	Alistair	MacDougall
Courtney	Brandon	Michael	Mann
Delarna-Lee	Brett	Kih	McDonald
Luke	Curgenven	Jessica	Mitchell
Adam	Curgenven	Katie	Norsworthy
Brady	Eason	Mikaela	Pease
Taliea	Endicott	Benj	Porter
Matthew	Gillham	Xanthe	Robinson
Jennifer	Gimbert-Morris	Nakita	Silver
Courtney	Grace-Coggan	Shannon	Skavinski
Lara	Guest	Brodie	Small
Matt	Hassan	Ethan	Turner
Reanna	Hill	Sarah	Woodhouse
Sarah	Jamieson	Johsua	Day
Rachael	Fenn	Amy-Maree	Hammond
Courtney	Herbert	Breanna	Jones
Cameron	Keating	Amia	McDonald
Ellen	Moore	Jai	Nelson

Year 8

Silver		Silver	
Callan	Davidson	Ashlee	Haire
Sara	Hutchison		
Bronze		Bronze	
Rhianna	Bettridge	Jordan	Lumby
Rachael	Billingham	Lydia	McCann
Crystal	Boag	Diana	Richards
Emily	Bruce	Laura	Sharman
Paige	Cassidy	Brian	Silver
Callan	Davidson	Jessica	Sinclair
Molly	Dawson	Charlee	Smith
Stewart	Faulkner	Sheree	Smith
Marie-Ellen	Griffiths	Nikolas	Traynor
Sara	Hutchison	Alicia	Styles
Hannah	Riley	Taylah	Riley
Paige	Oliver	Teegan	Lodge
Sarah	Dewit	Tyrone	Capper

Year 9

Silver		Silver	
Simon	Innes	Tom	Hassan
Bronze		Bronze	
Liana	Goninon	Tom	Hassan
Simon	Innes	Bradley	Moore
Bradley	Sandercock	Brodie	Waterford
Lauren	Swain	Kaitlyn	Wise
Millie	Pease	Kaytlin	Langdon
Molly	Batinic		

Year 10

Bronze		Bronze	
Grace	Curgenven	Brodie	Schumacher
Charlotte	Pettet	Tabitha	Alker
Brittany	Riley		

Year 11

Bronze		Bronze	
Jessie	Affleck	Kyra	Seach
Danielle	Korn	Bonnie	Taber
Amber	Robertson	Nikita	Tailby
Sam	Schubert	Karla-Lee	Ward
Maddie	Woodhead	Jennifer	Hutchison
Paige	Donnelly		

Year 12

Bronze			
Nicola		Kersley	
Nicki		Dean	