

Gunnedah High School Newsletter



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



Find us at:

Marquis Street, Gunnedah NSW, 2380

Phone 02 6742 0155 Fax 02 6742 4429

Website: www.gunnedah-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Email: gunnedah-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Issue 2

19/02/2010

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our newsletter. It has been a busy start to the year and I am pleased to say that the vast majority of students have settled in very well. Mrs Watson and I did the calculations and entered our student/staffing return last Thursday. We were very confident that our number would be over 610 which would see us keep the majority our staffing allocation, with only a minor correction. This, however, is not the case. We have an enrolment of 595 students and when adjusted for students studying TAFE courses, 588.455. There will be some staffing alterations due to the reduction in student numbers.

We have implemented a number of new initiatives in 2010. The one I would like to discuss in this newsletter is our Planning Room (PR) for the Junior School. The HELP Program (His/Her Enhanced Learning Program) empowers students to be responsible for their own learning and to take responsibility for their own actions if they disrupt the learning of their class mates. A student who is disruptive is asked four simple questions;

- What are you doing?
- What should you be doing?

- What will happen if you disrupt again?
- Is that what you want to happen?

The teacher then writes the students initials on the board. If the student disrupts the class again the student is asked:

- What are you doing?
- What should you be doing?
- You don't want to work with me on this. It appears you have chosen to go to the Planning Room.

Whilst in the PR, students will fill out a contract between themselves and the teacher and in their time will negotiate this with their teacher to be allowed back into the classroom.

Once the student has negotiated their plan with their teacher they will be given a gold pass to return to class the next period from the PR teachers.

There is an eight step system in place for the PR and as a final resort, students who cannot respect the rights of their class mates to learn without disruption will be suspended from school.

If students fail to comply with the rules associated with the PR then an automatic after school detention is issued by the PR teacher.

All staff and students from Yr 7 - 9 have been trained in the procedures for the PR.

It is pleasing to note that reports from staff are that there is a considerable reduction in classroom disturbance in the first few weeks of operation of this initiative.

With the inclusion of Yr 10 into the senior school this year, we had hoped that this may have helped them mature with some added responsibility. I would like to ask all Yr 10 parents and carers to actively talk with their child regarding their school and performance as this is a very important year for them, not only for their School Certificate, but also preparing them for their Yr 11-12 studies.

With the school year rapidly passing, I would like to remind Yr 12 and their parents and carers that their half yearly exams are coming up soon – Week 6 of this term. A study program must be in place soon, if they have not already started, so that they can give their best and perform to their potential in these exams. I will be conducting my interviews with all Yr 12 students early Term 2. This is a great opportunity for both Principal and student to have some quality time together and I would encourage every Yr 12 student to take advantage of this opportunity.

Below is an article which I have read since the last newsletter that you might find interesting.

**TOWARDS A NATIONAL CURRICULUM
Public Consultation on English,
Mathematics, Science & History K-10 drafts**
ACARA update, 12 February 2010

The draft K-10 Australian Curriculum in English, mathematics, science and history is now being finalised for uploading to the Australian Curriculum Consultation Portal.

In the week of 22 February 2010 this consultation website will be available for everyone to read, review, download or print the draft K-10 curriculum. It will also be the place where members of the education community can provide feedback and where the on-line feedback survey can be completed.

The K-10 consultation process and the K-10 part of the website will be open until 23 May 2010.

Work on the senior secondary years' curriculum for English, mathematics, science and history is proceeding according to the agreed timeframe.

From April 2010 to June 2010, the senior secondary curriculum will be available for consultation on the Australian Curriculum Consultation Portal.

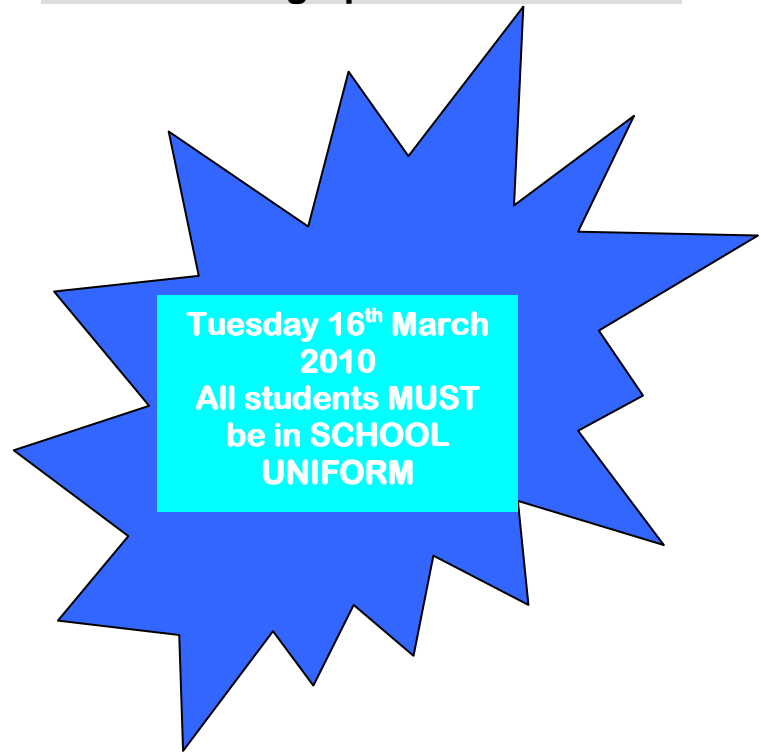
Read more at

<http://www.acara.edu.au/consultation.html>

Until our next newsletter.

Mr Rod Jones - Principal

School Photographs:



New Appointments:

Congratulations to Mr Warren Anderson on his appointment to the GHS Maths faculty.

Gunnedah Youth Choir:

If you enjoy singing and choreography, all students aged 8 -18 years are invited to join the Gunnedah Youth Choir for rehearsals, every Tuesday between 5 – 6pm, at the Gunnedah Civic Theatre. Enquiries: Marg Amos 6742 1099 or Jamie Brown 6742 3983.

GHS on the air with Radio 2MO/2GGG

If you would like to keep up to date with all the news from the Gunnedah High School, be sure to tune in to Gunnedah's **Radio 2MO** (1080 AM) every Monday morning at 7:35am, and **97.5FM/2GGG** every Wednesday morning at 8:15am, when GHS Community Liaison Officer Ray McCoy takes a look at what's happening at the Gunnedah High School.

VOLUNTARY BUS DRIVERS FOR SCHOOL EXCURSIONS-WANTED

Any parent/guardian with a light rigid driver's licence who would like to volunteer to drive the school bus on a school excursion please contact the front office on 67420155 with details of availability.

National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy Exam 2010

An Introduction to NAPLAN

In May 2010 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools. The tests will be conducted across Australia for all students from 11-13 May 2010.

Gunnedah High School Trial NAPLAN Examinations

In preparation for these exams, Gunnedah High School will conduct Trial Examinations during Week 5, as outlined below. These exams will be conducted during class time and will be marked at the school. The results of the tests will provide important information to our school about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs as we head towards NAPLAN in May. Parents will receive a brief report indicating their child's level of achievement.

Catch Up Exams

These are scheduled for students who miss a test or who were absent on a test day. If your student will be absent you can contact Mr Snowden to arrange a catch up examination.

Important Notice

All students are reminded that they must make a serious attempt with the trial exam and with the NAPLAN exam in May. Families of students who do not make a serious effort will be contacted to arrange an interview.

Year 7	Timing	Schedule	Supervision
Literacy			
Language Conventions	45	P4 Mon	MYOD G5 SNG ESOL D10 SMT EWO0 D11 HDM PLEI C9 HTH LOBI C4 DOW
Writing	40	P1 Tue	MYOD G5 SNG ESOL D10 SMT EWO0 D11 HDM ELEI D6 E POBI C6 EST
Reading	65	P1/2 Wed	SATH H4 CFT SZEU G1 S GJUN J4 WEG STHO C4 TFT SISI G8 PTR
Numeracy			
Non-Calculator	40	P1 Mon	MAT1 H10 M MAT2 H11 HAY MAT3 H12 RNL MAT4 H7 OXD MAT5 H8 MCM
Calculator	40	P4 Wed	MAT1 H10 M MAT2 H11 HAY MAT3 H12 RNL MAT4 H7 OXD MAT5 H8 MCM

Year 9	Timing	Schedule	Supervision
Literacy			
Language Conventions	45	P1 Mon	HDAR H1 STP HNEW H2 WAJ SEDI C3 FIT GBEL J2 DGT CAR5 J3 WAL
Reading	65	P1/2 Tue	SDAR H5 S SNEW J4 PTR HEDI H2 WAJ / GEDI J1 RLY SBEL J2 CFT SEIN H1 FED
Writing	40	P3 Wed	EKID D8 SCH EJAC D11 HDM EDGO D12 DNT ERUS D9 CTN EBLN D10 SMT
Numeracy			
Non-Calculator	40	P5 Mon	MAT1 H7 OXD MAT 2 H11 HAY MAT3 H8 M MAT4 H10 WLK MAT5 H12 RNL
Calculator	40	P4 Tue	MAT1 H7 OXD MAT 2 H11 HAY MAT3 H8 M MAT4 H10 WLK MAT5 H12 RNL

GHS P & C Association: Get Involved

**Wednesday 17th March
2010
AGM**

**Followed by
P & C Meeting**

7pm-School Library

All parents/guardians, carers and community members are most welcome. Don't just think about it, be a part of it!

2010 University Roadshow:

The 2010 University Roadshow rolled into Gunnedah on Wednesday 17th February, for a special presentation in the Gunnedah High School hall.

With Years 10, 11 & 12 students from the Gunnedah High School and St Mary's College Gunnedah in attendance, representatives from the University of New England, Charles Sturt University and Southern Cross University all provided a very informative presentation on their respective university's campus locations, admission requirements, application processes, course selections, finance & financial assistance, scholarships, accommodation and 'uni life' in general.

At the conclusion of the presentations, students were provided with the opportunity to procure each university's 2010 prospectus, and discuss their own requirements with the university representatives, one-on-one. The 2010 University Roadshow has once again been hailed as a great success, and received a very positive response from all in attendance.

Teens in Between:

The Tamworth Family Relationship Centre will be running "**Teens In Between**," a free two day program for teenagers aged 12 to 17 years whose parents have separated. This group aims to assist teenagers who have experienced separation or divorce in their family. Teenagers can gain an understanding of the changes their family is experiencing and have a chance to talk about their experiences, feelings and relationships. The educative and supportive environment builds self-esteem, resilience and skills in understanding family situations.

This program will run on the 13th and 14th of April between 9.30am and 3.00pm at the Family Relationship Centre in Hercules Street. For further information, or to enrol your teenager in this course please contact Jo on 67 628 669.

Uniform Shop:

Normal shop opening hours during school term will be:

Tuesdays 8:00am – 10:00am

Thursdays 1:00pm – 3:00pm

All outstanding orders for shorts are now in stock and can be picked up during normal shop hours.

To prolong the life of your clothes wash and dry them inside out. This decreases the risk of fading and pilling.

GHS Canteen- Volunteers required:

GHS Canteen Supervisor, Mrs Sharon Newell, is again sending out a call for 'volunteers' to assist in the operation of the school canteen during 2010. Many hands make light work, so your urgent assistance is required. Contact Sharon Newell on 6742 1110 during school hours.

Area Swimming Carnival Nominations:

Nominations from all GHS students wishing to compete in the CHS North-West Area Swim Trials, to be held in Armidale on Monday 1st March 2010, are to be in the hands of Ms Barb Reynolds - Maths Staffroom, immediately.

2010 GHS Swimming Carnival:

The Gunnedah High School sporting calendar for 2010 commenced on Wednesday 3rd February, with the staging of the annual GHS swimming carnival, in ideal conditions, at the Gunnedah Memorial Pool.

With students sharing a renewed competitive spirit, the carnival proved to be an outstanding success from the first shot of the starter's gun with students, supportive parents and carers, and the GHS teaching and support staff giving it their all.

Once again the students really got into the 'spirit' of the carnival to support their respective sports house by dressing up in a colourful selection of swimming attire, accessorised with face and body paint, as they joined in the battle to see who would win the all important "House Championship".

After a day of rigorous competition, with a number of quality times recorded, students will now prepare themselves for the CHS north-west regional trials, to be held in Armidale on March 1st 2010.



The 2010 GHS Swimming Carnival results are as follows:

Girl Age Champions

Year	First	Runner Up
12	Wendy Carter	Emma Drane Teagan Wortley
13	Samantha Turner	Amy Alker
14	Reanna Hill	Courtney Brandon
15	Jessica Novelty	Molly Dawson
16	Molly Doubleday	Tiara Peers Olivia Henry
17	Shannon Small	Stephanie Howes



Boy Age Champions

Year	First	Runner Up
12	Tyler Mills	Keagan Lane
13	Jarrod Reynolds	Hayden Smith
14	Kalin Eade	Josh Day
15	Dominic Rankmore	Angus Pettet Ben Boxsell
16	James Stewart	Simon Innes
17	Sam Schubert	James Ford



SPORTS HOUSE point scores

1ST	2ND	3RD	4TH
Kaputar	Nandewar	Illawarra	Moonbi

Wanted: Adult Mentors

Do you enjoy working with young people and have an hour to spare? If you do, we'd like you to come along and support our leaders of tomorrow.

GHS established a school based youth mentoring program in 2008 called "Plan-It-Youth", with six (6) students and mentors, and since its inception, the program has grown from strength to strength. "Plan-It-Youth" is an educational based program, linking community members with young students who may require extra support to either continue at school, prepare for the transition from school to work or prepare for further education.

The 2010 Plan-it-Youth program commences on Thursday February 26th, and the GHS is now seeking adult mentors from community members, parents/guardians or carers who are supportive of our young students and are willing to provide us with one (1) hour per week, during the school term. As a mentor, you will be provided with professional training and support, so no previous experience or qualifications are necessary, and no age limits apply. All you need to become a mentor is the wisdom gained from your life experiences.

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, or if you'd like some more information about Plan-It-Youth, please contact: Mrs Allyson Watson – Deputy Principal or Mrs Ann Thomas – Plan-It-Youth Co-ordinator, at the GHS on 6742 0155.

Retirement Farewell for Owen Hasler:

A farewell for former long serving GHS teacher Mr Owen Hasler will be held at the Gunnedah Bowling Club: Barbeque Area on Friday March 19th 2010, commencing with 'drinks' at 6:00pm for a 7:30pm start. Cost is only \$25 per head. RSVP Di Hasler 0409 394 596 or Coral Lorimer 6742 0085

New GHS Chaplain:

Our new Chaplain, Mr Jared Ledgewood, will be available in G7 at recess and lunchtime, each Wednesday and Friday during the school term, should students have any questions or want to catch up and have a chat.

School Pass Outs:

Students requiring pass outs for appointments must bring a note with the following information:

- **Full name of the student**
- **Year & Roll Class**
- **Parent/Carers signature & phone number**
- **Reason for the appointment**

Pass outs will not be given for haircuts or to go down the street to have lunch. These are to be done in the students own time.

If students can't attend sport due to injury they must go to the library.

GHS 2010 Term 1 Sports Calender:

Date	Event
Feb 23-25	NW Softball @ Manly
Feb 26	Secondary Schools Basketball Trials
March 1	CHS NW Regional Swimming Trials @ Armidale
March 1-5	Girls CHS Cricket @ Bathurst
March 5	U/15 Boys & Girls Touch Football @ Inverell
March 12	Secondary Boys Basketball Trials @ Tamworth
March 17	Zone Winter Trials – U/15 & Open Rugby League, Netball, Boys/Girls Touch.
March 31	Secondary Winter Trials – U/15 & Open Rugby League, Netball, Touch.

RDA Training Day:

Riding for the Disabled (RDA) is once again calling for our support. Students in year 9 (only) are provided with the opportunity to volunteer their assistance to the RDA each fortnight. A training day will be held at the Gunnedah Showground on Friday February 26th 2010, and if you would like to be involved, please contact Mrs Louise Hill in the CAPA staffroom.

Voluntary Contributions:

The general fees are used to enhance the many programs which operate in the school. There is a \$5.00 deduction on the General fee for second or subsequent children.

The subject fees are mainly used to provide consumable items required for specific courses. It is clearly more efficient and cheaper for the school to purchase food, timber, metal, paint, etc., than to ask individual students to bring in their own materials. The subject fees also assist to buy other resources such as texts, cameras etc.

All students in Visual Arts and Photography are expected to have a diary which is available from the Canteen. Year 12 Visual Arts students **must** buy all their own materials. Design and Technology and Industrial Technology students will be required to purchase project material. Hospitality students will be required to purchase the relevant uniform.

Our fees are amongst the lowest charged in NSW and, as a result, we seek a high collection rate. An invoice will be posted home showing the voluntary contributions requested for each individual student.

School uniforms may be purchased by lay-by at the Uniform Shop. The school has expended all student assistance funds available to date with the issue of student scholarships.

Payment may be made in three instalments. These payments may be made at the school office or by post.

Year 7		
	GENERAL FEE	\$50.00
	VISUAL ARTS	\$25.00
	TECHNOLOGY	\$25.00
Year 8		
	GENERAL FEE	\$50.00
	VISUAL ARTS	\$25.00
	TECHNOLOGY	\$25.00

Year 9		
	GENERAL FEE	\$50.00
	PHOTOGRAPHY	\$50.00
	FOOD TECHNOLOGY	\$25.00
	TIMBER	\$35.00
	METAL	\$35.00
	ELECTRONICS (INCLUDES KIT)	\$70.00
	AGRICULTURE	\$10.00
	TEXTILES & DESIGN	\$20.00
	VISUAL ARTS	\$50.00
Year 10		
	GENERAL FEE	\$50.00
	PHOTOGRAPHY	\$50.00
	FOOD TECHNOLOGY	\$25.00
	TIMBER	\$30.00
	METAL	\$30.00
	ELECTRONICS	\$20.00
	AGRICULTURE	\$10.00
	TEXTILES & DESIGN	\$20.00
	VISUAL ARTS	\$50.00
Year 11		
	GENERAL FEE	\$60.00
	VISUAL ARTS	\$50.00
	HOSPITALITY	\$65.00
	INDUSTRIAL TECH	\$40.00
	CONSTRUCTION	\$10.00
	DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	\$20.00
	PHOTOGRAPHY	\$50.00
	AGRICULTURE	\$25.00
	EARLY CHILDHOOD	\$10.00
	TECHNOLOGY-MULTI MEDIA	\$10.00
Year 12		
	GENERAL FEE	\$60.00
	PHOTOGRAPHY	\$50.00
	HOSPITALITY	\$60.00
	INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY	\$20.00
	VISUAL ARTS	\$50.00
	AGRICULTURE	\$15.00
	CONSTRUCTION	\$10.00
	DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY	\$20.00
	EARLY CHILDHOOD	\$10.00
	TECHNOLOGY-MULTI MEDIA	\$10.00

Dear Parent/Carers

Affordable accident protection for your children

No parent or carer likes to dwell on the prospect of accidents or injuries to their child, but the reality is that accidents do happen and families often struggle to cope with the financial pressures that follow.

Accidents don't discriminate on the basis of age, location or school, and sadly injuries to school-aged children can place enormous financial stress on their families, and can also have wider effects too. When this happens, parents and carers need a helping hand.

All too often, parents are surprised to learn just how little cover, if any, their children have when they are at school or at play. Please contact the Administration Office for details.

Important Notice:
EBM-Insurance Brokers

Rugby Union – Players Wanted

Do you fancy yourself as a rugby player? Gunnedah 'Red Devils' super coach, and GHS Maths magician Mr Luke Oxford is sending out a call for any junior rugby players, U/17 & U/19, who would like to play this year. If you are up to the challenge, please contact Mr Oxford in the Maths staffroom.

Parent's Puzzle? Try this quick quiz:

Unscramble the letters below to form two (2) words. All letters must be used, and can only be used once. Scrambled Letters:

OHDANITVACUEETNECMEI

Your Answer:

(1)

(2)



Would you like the Newsletter Emailed to you, or have you changed your address or phone number. If so, could you please fill out your details below and return the form to the front office.

Name: _____

Child's Name-s: _____

Phone Number: _____

Mobile No: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Yes ☐

Email Address: _____

I would like to have the Newsletter Emailed:
