

# Gunnedah High School Newsletter



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



## Find us at:

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**Issue 4**

**19.03.2010**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our newsletter.

Could I start this newsletter off by stating how proud I was to attend the induction of our student leadership team at a dinner on Tuesday night. My congratulations to each student on their election to the office of Senior Council or Captains of Gunnedah High School. They are a bright and enthusiastic group of young men and women who I know will serve our student body and school well over the course of 2010. Many thanks to all the parents, carers and staff who attended this dinner to make it a special night for our students and also to Ms Easthorpe for her organization.

Last week Mr Snowden and I attended training on the use of Smart Data to inform the teaching staff on external exam performance of our students. This will enable us to better diagnose areas of strength and deficiencies in our programming and delivery of lessons. As a National Partnerships school, we are compelled to make full use of this information and a training program is being developed for staff in its use.

Mr Edwards and I also attended a writing day for our Annual School Report. We are under way creating this report and it will be completed by 1<sup>st</sup> April.

I am looking forward to the 2010 New England Regional Principals' conference in Narrabri on the 18-19 March. This is a great opportunity for principals from across our region to get together and discuss issues. The Director-General of Education and Training, Mr Michael Coutts-trotter and the Deputy Director-General Schools will make keynote addresses to Principals.

A welcome back to Mr Borham and Mrs Watson after some Long Service Leave and many thanks to Mr Edwards and Mr Urquhart for relieving in their positions.

My congratulations are extended to Mr Andrew Urquhart, our Head Teacher TAS, who was successful at interview and will start at Tamworth High School at the beginning of Term 2. We will sadly miss you.

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

## **National Curriculum**

At the beginning of March I released, for final consultation, Australia's first national curriculum.

This is a significant milestone for Australian education; for the first time since Federation, a single, world class curriculum taught to all students.

The draft curriculum has been developed by education and curriculum experts. It has been shaped by the advice of teachers, principals and others with expertise in particular subject areas, stages of schooling and equity and diversity. It will be one of the world's first to be delivered online, making it dynamic and accessible.

It's a back-to-basics approach that while focusing on maths, English, science and history also provides a contemporary view of our world and the skills we need to navigate it.

Now all Australians have a chance to have their say on the draft national curriculum until 23 May. Also more than 150 schools around the country will be trialling the curriculum so there'll be an opportunity to see how it works and what needs to be done to make it better.

[Read more at the nation curriculum website](#)

These are exciting days, days that are moving at a pace that's needed because our kids only get one shot at an education and we cannot stand by and fail to try to provide the best we can for the children who need it now.

Julia Gillard  
Deputy Prime Minister  
9 March 2010

Until our next newsletter.  
Mr Rod Jones  
Principal

### Uniform Shop:

Normal shop opening hours during the school term will be:

Tuesdays 8:00am – 10:00am

Thursdays 1:00pm – 3:00pm

You can contact Alinta Apparel online at:

[www.alintaapparel.com.au](http://www.alintaapparel.com.au) or by phoning the Uniform Shop on (02) 6742 6939 during GHS Uniform Shop opening hours, and simply follow the prompts.

### GHS School Chaplain:

Our School 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.

### 2010 Year 7 & 11 Interim Progress Report:

Interim reports are currently being prepared on all Years 7 & 11 students and will be addressed with Parents/Carers at the Parent/Teacher evening on March 30<sup>th</sup> 2010.

### End of Term 1 - 2010

**Term 1  
concludes  
Thursday  
1<sup>st</sup> April 2010**

**Term 2 Resumes on  
Tuesday  
20<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

Staff Development Day is  
Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010

### Student Insurance: Parents/Carers responsibility

We wish to again advise all parents and carers that the school does NOT hold student personal insurance. 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. If you are interested, and require further information, please contact Wendy or Allyson in the Administration Office, or go directly to [www.studentcover.com.au](http://www.studentcover.com.au) or [www.willis.com.au](http://www.willis.com.au).

### Year 12 Half yearly Exams:

Following the Half Yearly exams, which concluded on Tuesday March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Year 12 Reports will be issued on Friday March 26<sup>th</sup> 2010.

**Parent / Teacher  
Evening to be held on  
Tuesday  
30<sup>th</sup> March 2010  
Years 7, 11 & 12**

## 2010 Senior School Council: Presentation Dinner

The presentation dinner for the induction of the 2010 Senior School Council was held at the Gunnedah Services & Bowling Club on Tuesday March 16<sup>th</sup> 2010. Congratulations to the following Year 11 and 12 students, who have been selected to represent the school on the 2010 Senior School Council:

**Year 11:** Simone King, Gabriel Reynolds, Samantha Porter, Grace Curgenvin, Rosemary Squire and Amber Burns.

**Year 12:** Charmaine Gillham, Kris Hobden, Carly Howard, Stephanie Howes, Jennifer Hutchinson, Andrew Pryor, Craig Paterson, Bonnie Taber, Matilda Wise and Maddie Woodhead

The night was hosted by Ms Simone Easthorpe, Year 10 Adviser, and guest speaker for the evening was GHS Community Liaison Officer, Mr Ray McCoy, who addressed the new Senior Council members and the audience on 'Leadership'.

It was great to see a large number of GHS teachers, staff, students, parents/carers and relatives in the audience to, congratulate the new Senior Council members on their appointment.



## 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.

## School Photographs:

School photographs for 2010 were taken on Tuesday March 16<sup>th</sup>, with all teachers, staff and students looking their best, as they smiled for the camera. Mrs Watson would like to thank all students for their co-operative and courteous manner. The photographers complimented our school on the students' behaviour. Great Work!

## Baby Doll & Healthy Relationships for Teens

Gunnedah Family Support will be running a FREE 2 day program for teenagers, on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> & Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2010. The program will run from 10am – 12 noon each day, with morning tea provided, and will cover the following issues:

- Healthy relationships.
- Teen pregnancy
- Contraception. (Not provided)
- STD's.

Limited seats are available, so be sure to secure your booking by contacting Elyce, at Gunnedah Family Support, on 6742 1515.

## Gunnedah High School 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.

## P & C Association:

Thank you to all the parents/carers and guardians, for your attendance at the Gunnedah High School P & C Association's Annual General Meeting (AGM), that was held in the school library last Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Following the AGM, the following appointments were announced:

President:	Mrs Linda Korn
Vice President:	Mrs Kath Day-McGuirk
Secretary:	Mrs Kerryn Pryor
Treasurer:	Mrs Kellee Clark
Canteen representative	Mrs Jo-Anne Innes

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2010, in the school library, commencing at 7:00pm. All parents/guardians, carers and community members are most welcome. Don't just think about it, be a part of it!

## GHS 2010 Term 1 Sports Calendar:

March 31: Secondary Winter Trials – U/15 & Open Rugby League, Netball, Touch.



### Gunnedah Junior Aussie Rules:

All students are invited to come & try Junior Aussie Rules at Wolseley Park, Gunnedah every Monday & Wednesday between 4:00 – 5:30pm. There are 2 divisions: Auskick – Boys & girls 9 - 12 yrs and Juniors: Boys 13 – 15 yrs.

### Basketball:

Last Wednesday the Open Boys & Girls Basketball team travelled to Quirindi to compete in the Knockout Competition. The teams played really well, however were both beaten by a better team on the day. Congratulations to both teams on their sportsmanship.



### CHS North-West Area Swimming Trials:

Following the incredible performances by the GHS team at the recent CHS North-West swimming trials, the following students have qualified to compete at the NSW CHS finals at the Sydney Aquatic Centre at Homebush on March 27, 28 and 29. Congratulations to Brandon Mitchell, Molly Dawson, Joshua Day, Kalin Eade, Sara Hutchinson, Tyler Mills, Jessica Novley, Jarod Reynolds, Sam Schubert, Shannon Small, Jennifer Turner and Samantha Turner.

### Gunnedah & District Soccer:

#### Registration Day:

**20<sup>th</sup> March 2010 between 11-2pm @ Geoff Morgan Soccer Fields**

### Soccer:

On Monday morning our Open Boys Soccer Team met Peel High School at Talibah for our 1<sup>st</sup> round game. Led by Jake Manley and Sam Schubert, our boys easily defeated the visitors 17-0. Matt Daley starred in the striker position scoring 7 goals in his debut match. The boys will meet Farrer in our next round.



### Manilla Horse Sports:

Students wishing to compete in the Manilla Central Schools Horse Sports event, at the Manilla Showground on Friday March 26<sup>th</sup>, are requested to pick up notes from the Science staffroom. Payments and notes must be returned immediately.



Lauren Swain, Maddy Vigor and Jordan Lumby who represented Gunnedah High School in the NSW Combined High School Open Girls Cricket Team. Jordan Lumby has been selected in the Combined High Schools Second Eleven to play at Orange next week for the Lord Taverers Trophy.

