

Gunnedah High School Newsletter



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



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Issue 6

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our newsletter.

Term 2 is off to a flying start and it's important for all parents and carers to realise that all year groups have exams in the next few weeks. Please discuss this with your child/ren to maximise their outcomes for their half yearly report.

Yr 12 will be sitting their Trial Exams at the end of this term. Time is certainly getting away for our HSC class. We have moved their Trial exams forward this year to negate the problem of 4 wasted weeks at the end of Term 3 after their traditional exam period. For some reason, students thought that they had finished. We will now be working our Yr 12 class hard, right up until the last day of Term 3.

We have established a very exciting addition to our online services for students. This is called 'Maths Online'. Shortly, a brochure will be given to your child to take home explaining what this is about. All Maths staff members have been given login passwords for their students and these will be distributed soon to the students. Please encourage your child to show you the website and to do a little extra maths at home. Congratulations to Mrs McMahon and the Maths staff for their initiative in this area.

There have been some very convincing sporting achievements by our students of late. Congratulations to all teams on the way you have represented our school and your sportsmanship. A

special congratulations to Tyra Kelly of Yr 8 for scoring an amazing 9 goals in a girls soccer match which saw GHS win 9-1.

I was so very proud of the students from this school who attended the ANZAC day march last Sunday. After we were all soaked to the skin, all students stood quietly and paid their respects during the ceremony with a great deal of maturity. Well done to you all.



Tuesday night saw our second Laptop 4 Learning information night for Yr 9 students and parents. This was a very informative, short evening which saw a great deal of important information given to parents and students regarding this program. I am very pleased to report that 180+ people attended this evening and many thanks to Mr Barry McRae and Mr Glen Coombs for all the work they have done to make the Digital Education Revolution happen within our school.

The 2009 Annual School Report is on our School's website-limited copies are available in the front office. A Community Meeting for the ASR will be in the Library @ 6pm prior to the next P & C Meeting on Wednesday 19th May 2010.

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

STUDENT RETENTION

Jobless fears make teens stay in school

Stephanie Peatling, Sydney Morning Herald, April 25, 2010

Increasingly tough rules on youth support payments and high youth unemployment have led to a record number of people staying in school or training after Year 10.

People aged 15 to 19 are more likely to be studying than working or undertaking apprenticeships than at any other time in Australia's history, with a 20 per cent jump in those staying in school in the past five years.

"We've seen in Australia that people who have not completed year 12 are three times more likely to be unemployed than someone who has completed year 12," Employment Participation Minister Mark Arbib said.

There are now 54,000 more 15- to 19-year-olds in school or training than there were in 2004.

The trend among 20 to 24-year-olds hitting the books is also pronounced, with a 5 per cent increase in the past five years, according to an analysis by the Department of Employment, Education and Workplace Relations for The Sun-Herald.

Read more at:

<http://www.smh.com.au/national/jobless-fears-make-teens-stay-in-school-20100424-tkhl.html>

Until our next newsletter.

Mr Rod Jones

Principal

Term 2 – 2010: April 20 – July 2

Public Holiday

Monday 14th June – Queen's Birthday

Exam Times

Year 10 Half Yearly	Mon 3 rd May – Tues 4 th May 2010
Year 7/8/9	Mon 10 th May – Fri 21 st May 2010
Year 7/9	NAPLAN tests: Tues 11 th May – Thurs 13 th May 2010
Year 12 HSC Trials	Wed 23 rd June – Fri 2 nd July 2010

Year 9 Laptop Induction Evening:

Thank you to all the parents, carers and students who attended the Year 9 Laptop Computer induction session on Tuesday night. With over 189 people in attendance, the GHS would like to congratulate you on your support for your children and the GHS. The distribution of the Laptops to Year 9 students will commence next week.

Traineeship:

Reece Plumbing has a School Based Traineeship, available for a Year 10 or 11 student, to start immediately. If you are interested and would like some more information, please contact Mr Walls immediately.

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.

Gunnedah Annual Show:

Congratulations and best wishes to all GHS students who have entered works in the Art Section, or will be competing in the horse events at this year's Gunnedah Show.

Immunisations:

A reminder to all participating Year 7 students, that you will be receiving your second series of vaccinations during periods 1–4 on Tuesday 4th May 2010.

Year 10 Work Experience:

A reminder to all students that they are required to confirm their 'work experience' arrangements, and hand in their completed forms to Mrs Hill in HSIE, immediately.

Free Learner Driver Workshop for parents & supervising drivers : RTA & ETC

Helping learner drivers become safer drivers:

- ❖ Understanding of the new laws for L and P licence holders
- ❖ Supervising learner drivers
- ❖ Completing the Learner Driver Log
- ❖ Understanding the benefits of supervised on-road driving experience

The next workshop in your area will be held:

Date & Time: Wednesday 19 th May 7pm to 9pm	Venue: Gunnedah Services & Bowling Club	Book now on: 1800007400 Bookings essential
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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 Term 2. Many hands make light work, so your urgent assistance is required. Contact Sharon Newell on 6742 1110 during school hours.

Lions Youth of the Year:

The regional finals of the Lions Youth of the Year were contested by three of our year 12 students, Charmaine Gilham, Patsy Stanley and Sam Schubert representing Boggabri, Gunnedah and Curlewis. They participated in the interviews and public speaking against strong competition from over the North West. Special guest at the evening was Gunnedah Mayor, Adam Marshall who commended the participants on their presentations.



P & C Association: Get Involved

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

A Community Meeting for the Annual School Report will be in the Library @ 6pm prior to the next P & C Meeting on Wednesday 19th May 2010.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 19th May, 2010 in the school library commencing at 7:00pm

France 2010:

What an experience! After 12 days in France, we have 13 students who have seen what the world has to offer. We stayed 5 days in Paris, one day in London, 3 days in Lyon and 2 days in Nice. Each town with their different stories and things to see. The history, culture, traditions, and food demonstrated to the students how rich and deep French culture is. All students dove head first into using French as much

as possible and trying new foods (some more than others, Tom!).

We have consolidated ties with a high school just outside of Paris. This will provide opportunities to students to communicate with native French speakers, and who knows what else in the future.

Some student quotes...

"This trip has shown me how much there is out there. There is so much to see." Jarrod Stubbs (Yr 10)

"Seeing the different way they live their lives to us. Just because it's different doesn't make it wrong" Daniel Boyer (Yr 11)

"Lyon was the bomb. The food in general was gross, but I'd do the whole thing again in a flash!" Jake Vigor (Yr 11)

"Fun! The experience, the whole thing, was awesome...and educational. The history blew me away, how certain people were treated. Makes me appreciate today's society." Hayley Pryor (Yr 10)

"A life changing experience. Made me appreciate the different cultures. Extremely worth it!" Lauren Swain (Yr 10)

"An awesome, memorable and humorous experience" Brittany Riley (Yr 11)

"My favourite part was the Arc de Triomphe and I also really enjoyed the Roman amphitheatres in Lyon. We keep in touch with people we met over there, which is really great. It was an experience of a lifetime!" Molly Batinic (Yr 10)



GHS 2010 Term 2 Sports Calendar

GHS Cross Country	Wed 5 th May @ Len Sefflet Track Wandobah Reserve
Boys/Girls Golf	Fri 7 th May @ Tamworth
Boys/Girls Open Touch	Mon 10 th May
GHS Athletics Carnival	Wed 9 th June
Zone Cross Country	Fri 18 th June @ Coolah
Zone Athletics	Wed 23 rd June @ Coolah

Sports Report:

Congratulations to Hunter Richards – Open Football and Matt Baker-Open Rugby League on gaining selection in the North West regional teams, following trials in Narrabri recently.

In Football (Soccer), three GHS teams have all been successful in their Round 1 encounters:

GHS U/15 Girls defeated Narrabri 9-1 in the Bill Turner Trophy on 29th April, with Tyra Kelly scoring all 9 goals. Gunnedah will now play Moree in round 2 on 11th May.

GHS Open Girls defeated Quirindi 4-1 and will go on to play either Coonamble or Coonabarabran in Round 2.

The GHS Open Boys continued on from their 17-0 demolition of Oxley High last term, with a strong 3-1 win over arch rivals Farrer High School.

Basketball Players Wanted:

The Gunnedah Basketball Association has sent out an urgent call to any students, parents/guardians, teachers or community members who would like to play in their 2010 winter competition. If you would like some more information, please contact Mrs Fay Byrne on 6742 6747.

Attendance Reminder:

If any student is late to school, they are required to provide a signed explanation note from their parents/guardians when they sign in at the main office. If a note is not provided within 5 school days, the absence will be deemed to be unjustified, and duly noted on the student's attendance report card.

Parental/guardian explanation notes are also required if students are absent for full days, and must be given to the 'roll-call' teacher, upon returning to school. As some students may be required to be absent from school for extended periods, under certain circumstances, exemptions may be granted but a parental/guardian letter must be provided to the GHS principal Mr Jones, explaining the circumstances.

Student Exchange Program:

In June-July 2010, students, aged 15 – 18 years, from over 15 countries will be arriving in Australia to study at local schools for 3, 5 or 10 months. Opportunities exist to act as a host family in a volunteer/unpaid capacity. Hosting can be on a temporary, short or long term basis. Host families help provide our students with the chance to study and experience life in Australia. This is a great way to learn about another country and culture, establish a lifelong link to a family in another country and contribute to international goodwill. If your family can offer a friendly, supportive and caring home environment, contact us today. To learn more about this opportunity call Student Exchange Australia New Zealand on 1300 135 331 or visit our website: www.studentexchange.org.au

Uniform Shop:

Normal shop opening hours during the school term will be:

Tuesdays	8:00am – 10:00am
Thursdays	1:00pm – 3:00pm

Now available:

✚ Fleecy jumper	\$42.00
✚ Woolen jumpers from	\$69.00
✚ Scarves	\$10.95
✚ Tights 70 Denier	\$ 8.50
✚ Socks, Thick ankle 90% cotton	\$5.50pr
✚ Caps	\$12.00
✚ Gloves	\$ 6.00
✚ SPECIAL: Woolen jumpers all sizes now	\$55.00

You can contact Alinta Apparel online at: 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.

Uniform Shop:

