

# Gunnedah High School Newsletter



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



## Find us at:

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## Issue 11

23.07.2010

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first Newsletter for Term 3.

We would like to welcome everybody back to a new term and hope that everyone had a safe and enjoyable vacation. Unfortunately, Mr Jones has been on sick leave this week and this report has been composed, in his absence, by the Deputy Principals.

This term we welcome two new teachers and two student teachers to the school. Ms Feodoroff has been invited to be a consultant for the ESSA examination and has been replaced by Mr K Ryan in Science for this term. Mr R Thomson is relieving for Mr A Urquhart in the TAS faculty. Ms J Organ has also joined TAS for her practicum and Mrs E Thompson is spending time with English.

The staff held a very successful Development Day on July 19, focusing on laptops and technology in the classroom. Please note that there will not be any Staff Development Days held this term during AG QUIP. Classes will operate as normal.

Just a reminder that our Subject Selection Evenings will be held in Week 3 and we hope that all parents and students will take advantage of the opportunity to participate in this important

decision making process. Interviews for Year 10 students will follow the first round of choices to assist with their final selections.

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> August, Year 12 Parent/Teacher Conferences will also be held. This will be our final interviews for this year group and we encourage all parents/carers of Year 12 to attend and support the students.

We have received the exciting news that the Honorable Verity Firth (MP) will be visiting our school on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August to officially open the Gymnasium and Certificate II Commercial Kitchen refurbishment. The AECG will be hosting a luncheon and meeting with the Minister which will be catered for by our senior hospitality students.

The first P&C Meeting for Term 3 was held last night and it was decided to continue to support the cost of postage for the fortnightly Newsletter. We thank them for their support in improving communication between members of the Gunnedah High School community.

Until our next Newsletter,

Mr Murray Borham, Mrs Allyson Watson and  
Mr Andrew Snowden  
Deputy Principals

### Captions from the Festival of Champions:



### Student Scholarships:

Congratulations to GHS students Samantha McAlpine, Marie-Ellen Griffith and Cassandra Ward on being awarded Two Ways Together Student Scholarships: Years 9–12. The scholarships are awarded by the Department of Education and Training & the New South Wales Aboriginals Affairs as part of their commitment to improving academic outcomes, attendance, engagement, retention and leadership skills of Aboriginal students from the early years of schooling through to Year 12.

We would also like to congratulate Bonnie Taber on being awarded a “Youth off the Street” scholarship for non-Aboriginal students.

### Community Information Seminar:

If you have a complaint about a Government Agency or Company, the Good Service Mob will be presenting a free Community Information Day for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders at the Gunnedah Town Hall on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2010, between 10am – 2pm. Free lunch will be provided. RSVP Jess Griffen on 6742 7038

### Coming Events Term 3:

2-6 <sup>th</sup> August	Education Week:
9-13 <sup>th</sup> August	Naidoc Week Celebrations
18 <sup>th</sup> August	P & C Meeting
17, 18 & 19 <sup>th</sup> August	Ag-Quip Field days: – All students MUST attend school as usual
9 & 10 <sup>th</sup> September	CHS Athletics Carnival @ Homebush
14 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 10 Trial School Certificate
17 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 11 Exams commence
10 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 8 Coffs Harbour excursion: Full \$235 payment deadline.
15 <sup>th</sup> September	P & C Meeting
24 <sup>th</sup> September	Term 3 ends

### Student Laptops:

Years 9 & 10 students are reminded that, under the Laptop User Agreement, you have agreed to bring your Laptop to school fully charged, every day. Don't forget!

### School Rock Band:

Any male or female students interested in joining a school rock/experimental rock band are asked to contact Mr Hayden. Intermediate or advanced players & vocalists are welcome.

### Black Dog Institute:

The Black Dog Institute – one of Australia's foremost not-for-profit organisations offering specialist expertise in depression & bipolar disorder, will have an information stall at this years Ag-Quip Field Days on the 17/18/19<sup>th</sup> August, to offer their assistance to local and visiting members of the public.

They will also be holding a free seminar called “Navigating Teenage Depression” at the Tamworth Capitol Theatre on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2010, from 6.30pm – 8.30pm. For more information call 02 9382 8203 or visit [www.blackdoginstitute.org.au](http://www.blackdoginstitute.org.au)

### P & C Association:

The next meeting will be held on  
**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> August 2010**  
 in the school library  
 commencing at 7:00pm  
**All parents/carers and community members are most welcome**



### Understanding and Supporting Children on the Autism Spectrum

**Date:** Thursday 5th August

**Time:** 9am registration to 5.30pm

**Place:** Gunnedah Services Bowling Club  
313 Conadilly St, Gunnedah

This talk is for parents/carers who have a child with a disability, teachers and service providers.

#### The Presenter - Dr Lee Sturgeon

Dr Lee Sturgeon is a Consultant Clinical and Developmental Psychologist specialising in the assessment and treatment of children, adolescents and adults with varying autism spectrum disorders. Lee has completed a doctorate in Clinical Psychology including research in the field of developmental psychology and autism spectrum disorders (ASD). Lee has a private practice with a focus on autism spectrum disorders and developmental disorders. He has also worked for Hunter New England Health Service in a similar capacity, as well as developing policy and specific service provisions for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders. As well as running his private practice, Lee conducts regular educational seminars for clients, families and professionals, specialising in the provision of practical behavioural interventions.

**RSVP:** Tuesday 3rd August 2010 (For Catering Purposes)

Gabrielle Murray: 6752 6953 or  
Gabrielle.murray@northcott.com.au  
or Kathryn Day-McGuirk: 0408 843 421

The talk is free of charge and lunch will be provided.

### Year 12 Class of 1985/Year 10 Class of 1983 Reunion:

25<sup>th</sup> School reunion for the Year 12 Class/Year 10 Class of 1983. Meeting for dinner on Saturday night of the long weekend October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010. For further details email to: [ghs.classof85reunion@gmail.com](mailto:ghs.classof85reunion@gmail.com)

### Whole School Activities/Special Occasion Permission Notes:

Could all parent/carers who have not filled out the above permission notes please let the front office know if you do not wish your child to be photographed or published in the media.

### 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.

### Attention all budding Country Music Superstars:

The Telstra Road to Tamworth will be holding audition heats at the Ag-Quip Field Days on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> August 2010 from 11:00am, with special guest judge country music star James Blundell. This is a great opportunity for all local budding singers or songwriters to showcase their talents. Entries close on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2010. For more information visit [www.telstra.com/trtt](http://www.telstra.com/trtt)

### GHS Canteen:

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 3. Many hands make light work, so your urgent assistance is required. Contact Sharon Newell on 6742 1110 during school hours.

### Chess Competition:

Every Tuesday at recess and Friday at lunch over 30 students have been testing their chess skills with the guidance of Mr Chris Hayden. The competition is building towards selecting a team of four to compete against other schools next year.



**Comprehensive****Curriculum Choices****Community Centred**

## *The Principal & Staff of Gunnedah High School invite*

### *Parents, Carers & Students to attend the*

## Subject Information Evenings for Year 8 & 10

Year 8    Tuesday 3rd August 2010

Year 10    Thursday 5th August 2010

Where?  
High School Hall

Commencing  
7pm each night

#### **The evening will provide information on:**

- The subjects offered for Year 11 in 2011
- The subjects available for selection in our three elective lines in Year 9, 2011
- School Certificate, Preliminary Course and Higher School Certificate course requirements
- Vocational Education and T/Vet courses

Displays

Supper provided

School Based  
Traineeships

Subject Information Booklets for prospective students will be available at the Gunnedah High School Office from Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2010. Enquiries can be made by contacting the school Phone 67420155 or e.mail [gunnedah-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gunnedah-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)

Attendance is not restricted to those families whose children are currently enrolled at the school. Visitors are always welcome

**Caring****Challenging**