

Gunnedah High School Newsletter



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



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Issue 15

17.9.2010

Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome to our Newsletter.

I would like to start this newsletter by congratulating all students in the 'Class of 2010' for making it through to the end of Yr 12. This is the last newsletter that I can formally address you as students of the school and on behalf of the staff and fellow pupils of Gunnedah High School – CONGRATULATIONS. We are all very proud of you.

I had the pleasure yesterday to attend the New England Region Giyanha Dirrabuu Murri Awards in Tamworth. These words mean 'Future Outstanding Aboriginal'. This showcased and celebrated the extraordinary talents of Aboriginal students across the New England. I was so proud of our two students who were recognised at these awards. They were Marie-Ellen Griffiths and Sam McAlpine. These two young ladies are a credit to our school and our community. It was also very gratifying to have Mrs Gwen Griffen recognised for her continuing support of public education within the community.



On Monday 20th September I will be going out to Dubbo to continue the process of development of an Expression of Interest for a Trade Training Centre in Metals and Engineering and Hospitality for our school. I will visit schools around Dubbo to view their facilities and then spend time with the consulting company who will be developing our proposal. This would be a fantastic facility for our school and it would mean that students could, if they met the competencies, leave Yr 12 with Certificate III in Hospitality or Metals and Engineering and with their HSC.

We will be posting home our Yr 7 and Yr 9 student NAPLAN reports to parents this week. We have decided to do this instead of handing them to the students as they are very important documents and parents need to keep them safe. We found last year that some did not make it home. I am very heartened by the results of our students this year. Mr Snowden and I will hold a public meeting on Tuesday 19th October to explain the result and we would invite interested parents to this meeting.

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

POVERTY & DISADVANTAGE

Exceptional teachers for disadvantaged schools

"Life Matters", ABC Radio, 8 September 2010

Independent MP Rob Oakeshott has highlighted the need to address educational inequities in poorer regional and disadvantaged areas of the country. There's now a lot of evidence that disadvantage has an impact on educational outcomes. But what if top



Education
& Training

teachers could be channelled into the most disadvantaged schools?

A new project at QUT is trying this out -- by placing outstanding student teachers into the neediest schools.

Guests:

Emma Thomas - Third Year Bachelor of Education student and a participant in the project

Dr Jo Lampert - Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Education at the Queensland University of Technology

Find out more, listen online – and read comments:

<http://www.abc.net.au/rn/lifematters/stories/2010/3005167.htm>

Until our next newsletter.

Mr Rod Jones
Principal

Dates to Remember

17 th September	Year 11 Exams commence
23 rd September	Year 12 Farewell Assembly
24 th September	Term 3 ends
11 th October	Term 4 Starts

Green Card Seminar



Term 4 Sport Selections: Choose the sport that suits you!

Students are reminded to choose their Term 4 sport carefully, as there will NOT be any changes next term. Choose the sport that suits you, not your friends!

Attention all Cricket Players

Former Australian test cricketers and current leading coaches, Doug Walters and Geoff Dymock, will be visiting Gunnedah to conduct a junior coaching

clinic at the PCYC on Thursday 7th October 2010, from 9am – 3pm during school holidays. The clinic is open to all players from under 10's to 16's, and to all skills levels. Cost is only \$20.00 per person. To register, or for more details, please email Clinic Co-ordinator Ms Amanda Cooper at amanda.cooper5@bigpond.com or phone 6742 1884.

Year 10 Food Technology

As part of the Year 10 Food Technology practical assessment task, participating students were required to prepare and present a wide range of canapes and finger food, to be taste tested by fellow students and staff. Students were judged on their food quality, aesthetic quality, table presentation and food service. Judging by the happy, full and contented faces of all those who had the opportunity to taste the food, all students did well. Congratulations.



Year 9 Bush Tucker Excursion

The Excursion was held at the Breeza Community Hall organised by Mr Daniel Lickorish, Reconnect Practitioner, with help from Mrs Ann Thomas School Learning Support Officer and Mrs Helen Lickorish Aboriginal Education Officer.

Year 9 Hospitality students firstly toured Breeza Station and were given its history by Mr Andrew Pursehouse, back to the hall to learn two bush dances taught by Mr & Mrs Wilson from Curlewis, followed by a bush tucker luncheon cooked in a 'Traditional' Aboriginal Earth Oven and European Camp Ovens. Food served included:

- Kangaroo, lamb, potatoes, carrots and parsnips cooked underground
- Corn meat and pork in the camp ovens
- Damper cooked by Mrs Judy Squire
- Gravy made by Mr Ron Griffen
- Chicken curry cooked by Mrs Gail Taber
- Sweets - an old fashioned jam roly poly made by Mrs Gwen Griffen and Simone Lickorish with custard made by Mrs Gail Taber

During lunch students, Breeza residents and Carroll Public School students were all entertained by Mr Phil Rees, Principal, Gunnedah Public School, who played mandolin, banjo and guitar and Brad Patterson who sang and played guitar. On the day students were pleasantly surprised by Mr Stephen Druce who entertained them on the old hall piano.



Lion's Youth of the Year

Any Year 11 students who would like to participate in the 2010 Lion's Youth of the Year are requested to see Mrs Schubert for application forms and information.

Environmental Scholarships

Bayer is offering Environmental Scholarships to Year 11 & 12 students, who are interested in a career in Environmental Science. The scholarships will provide students with the opportunity to take on a research project during the Christmas holidays. For more information, please contact Mrs Hill.

Year 12 Reminders

All Year 12 students are advised to contact GHS Careers Advisor, Mr Kel Walls, in regard to any University applications, scholarships, TAFE courses & accommodation requirements they may require for 2011.

SRC 'Footy Colours' Day



On Friday September 3rd, the SRC organised a 'Footy Colours' day to raise funds and community awareness for cancer. GHS students and staff really embraced the day and came dressed in their favourite football team's colours. It was a huge effort, raising over \$600.00 for the Cancer Foundation, with Ashleigh Comber acknowledged as the most 'way out there' supporter. Congratulations to all concerned.

Gunnedah Shire Library: New Opening Hours

Monday	Thursday: 10.00am – 5.30pm
Friday	8.30am – 4.00pm
Saturday	9.30am – 12.30pm

School Reunion

The 25th School Reunion for the Year 12 Class of 1985/Year 10 Class of 1983 will be held on Saturday 2nd October 2010, with a dinner on Saturday night of the long weekend. For further details email to: ghs.classof85reunion@gmail.com

Coles Sports for Schools

The school has registered for the Coles Sports for Schools program. This involves students, parents, relatives and neighbours collecting vouchers when spending money at Coles. Every \$10 spent at Coles equals 1 voucher, the more vouchers collected the more points we have to acquire sports gear for the school. The program starts on September 2nd and finishes October 31st. It's time to start shopping at Coles and collecting vouchers.

GHS School Chaplain

Mr Jared Lidgerwood, 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.

Year 7 & 8 "French Breakfast"

As part of their unit on 'Food in France', students in Year 7 & 8 who are doing French this year, recently had the opportunity to experience a 'French breakfast'. The breakfast included chocolat chaud, des croissants, des baguettes, de la confiture de fraise et abricot and et du beurre. As part of their French experience, the students will also be making and tasting creres, which are very common in France.



Uniform Shop

Normal shop opening hours during the school term will be:

Tuesdays 8:00am – 10:00am

Thursdays 1:00pm – 3:00pm

It's time to make sure that all students have their 'summer' uniform. 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.

P & C Association

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 20th October 2010

in the school library, commencing at 7:00pm

All parents/guardians, carers and community members are most welcome

Year 9 Work Experience



Attendance

If your child is absent from school and you are able to contact the school please ring the front office on 67420155. This information will then be entered on the system either as sick or leave. If your child needs to be away for a number of days you may be eligible to apply for an exemption. Just ring Wendy or Allyson in the front office on the number above.

Year 8 Science

On Wednesday September 8TH Year 8 Bastille undertook the long awaited and, for others, long dreaded experiment involving the dissection of lamb kidneys, heart and pluck (heart and lungs). Why would we use lamb organs? They are similar to those of humans and a suitable size to dissect. Cow organs would be too big and fly organs just a little small.

Here is what the students had to say:

Kidneys

First we cut the kidneys (Breanna).

We cut down longwise and it was red/pink around the edges and the middle had a glazed white centre with fat in the middle.

Heart

"Again I couldn't cut it (Sara)

It was easier to use the scissors than the scalpel.

Pluck

The pluck was very slimy and harder to cut because my hands kept slipping. (Hannah)

The most exciting thing of the day would have had to be the pluck. The lungs and trachea were still attached together. When slicing the lungs blood vessels air holes in the lungs were hard and you could see through them. The lungs were beautiful and soft.

Concluding Comments

We could dissect a brain! Gross!! (Alex)

It was fun and we got to see what's inside the pluck, kidney and heart. Overall, it was an awesome experience, and I'll never forget it. I'm not going to be a surgeon, that's for sure. (Sarah C)