

GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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Issue 16

4.11.2011

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Newsletter

The busy scheduling of reports and Parent/Teacher evenings is already upon us. Year 11 should have received their reports and be organising appointments with their teachers, to be held in the Library on Thursday, November 3 between 4pm and 6pm. We strongly urge your participation and thank you for the interest you display in your student's education. Year 11 may drop a subject now if they wish, although we strongly encourage all Year 12 students to have 12 units. I apologise to anyone wishing to speak with me about their Year 11 student's progress on this day, as I will be in Sydney at a Principal's meeting. Please feel free to call me to either complete this interview over the phone or arrange a mutually convenient time. Year 10 reports are just beginning, and we will also hold further communication meetings for the families of those students.

The Year 12 HSC examinations are continuing in the school hall, and will do so for the next 2 weeks. They will have their formal presentation evening at the Gunnedah Bowling Club on Tuesday, November 15, beginning at 7pm. On Monday, November 7 and Tuesday, November 8, Year 10 will have their turn to attempt the final School Certificate exams. We wish all students the very best in these important exams, and trust that they have done the necessary preparation.

We are very close to completion with regards to our Management Plan and all of our budget requirements for next year. The school is in a strong financial position and this was conveyed last week at a very important consultation meeting. This discussed all of our equity programs, PSP, SiP and National Partnerships, and was extremely well attended by members across all our community groups. I thank all of those people involved for their positive contributions towards our decision making. Working as a united team makes a huge difference.

Some recent excursions have involved the English department and Years 7 and 10, watching important movies to assist the students with their textual studies. This week is the major performances of a variety of students in the dance group CAPERS. I trust that, as always, Gunnedah High students represent us in the community and at competitions with pride, positive behaviour and good sportsmanship.

Years 7, 8 and 9 should have commenced some of their end of year exams, which began last week. We strongly encourage and trust that all students are striving for their maximum performances in these exams to end the year of 2011 on a positive note.

During the last 2 weeks, Mr Rod Jones has announced that he will not be returning to Gunnedah High School in 2012, and will be taking up an appointment at Oxley High School. Mr Jones has made a huge contribution to both the education, structure and image of Gunnedah High School during his time here and I would like to publicly thank him for the work he has done for this community and wish him every success in his new position.

If you have any concerns at all about your child's education, please call in advance on 67420155 and make an appointment with the appropriate staff member. We cannot assist if we do not know, and we welcome any input which can assist us in doing things better for the students and families of Gunnedah High School.

Kind regards
Murray Borham
Relieving Principal

LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to the following GHS students on their success in the Curlewis and Gunnedah 2011 "Lions Youth of the Year" competitions:

Curlewis:

Public Speaking: Bradley Sandercock
Youth of the Year: Sara Jones

Gunnedah:

Public Speaking: Kayla Gillham
Youth of the Year: Liana Goninon

GHS STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL (SRC)

Loud shirt day was held on Friday 21st October in support of helping deaf children talk. The SRC raised \$1,206.05 on the day, from donations and a food stall. The SRC has also raised money for various other causes this year, including: Harmony Day for School Aid, Pink Day to assist the Glen McGrath Foundation, the 'retro' school social earlier this year was for a plaque in memory of Ethan Stevens, which we are still awaiting delivery, so that we will have a memorial service soon. The raffle drawn at the social was for Boe Watton, with any extra monies left to go towards the purchase of a wheelchair to help with Boe's rehabilitation.

Under the guidance of SRC co-ordinator, Ms Judy Squire the total amount raised by the Gunnedah High School SRC this year was \$3,977.75. This incredible result is the most money raised by the SRC in any one year, ever. The dedicated team members of the SRC gave up their free time before school, during recess and lunch, as well as after school to make all of these events a great success.

The members of the 2011 SRC are:

Yr 7: Angela Barton, Samatha Craig, Carys Griffiths, Tony Griffiths.

Yr 8: Liam Davidson, Izaak Merlehan, Jarod Reynolds

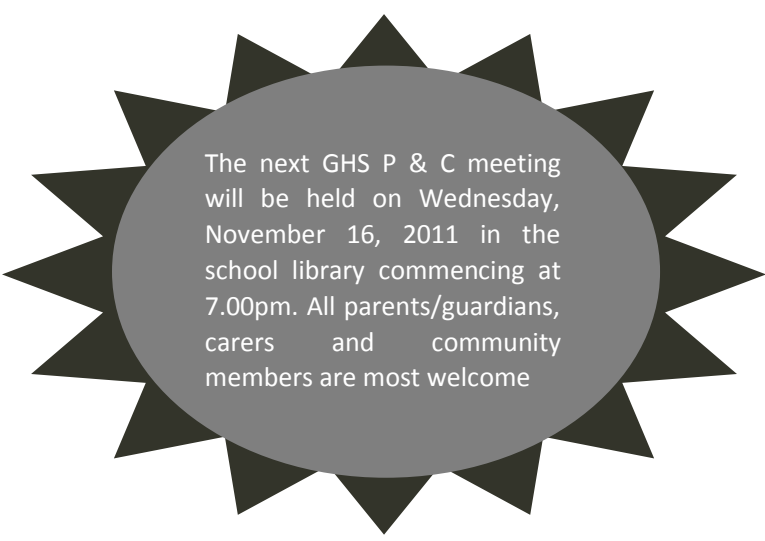
Yr 9: Sarah Clark, Hannah Langdon, Krystal Lynch, Ramona Wynne

Yr 10: Hughie Berry, Marie-Ellen Griffiths, Ashlee Haire, DJ Smith

Yr 11: Molly Batanic, Kayla Gillham, Liana Goninon, Sarah Jones



P & C ASSOCIATION



The next GHS P & C meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2011 in the school library commencing at 7.00pm. All parents/guardians, carers and community members are most welcome

GHS SCHOOL CANTEEN

GHS
Canteen
urgently
needs your
assistance

Only
recess &
lunch
serving
would be
great

Please
call Sharon
on
67421110

OPEN BOYS & GIRLS CRICKET

Training for all boys and girls teams, in all divisions, has now begun with net sessions every Monday & Thursday afternoon. Practice makes perfect, so we look forward to seeing you there.

GHS LIBRARY: NEW NON FICTION TITLES NOW AVAILABLE

- **Speaking in Public: including committees, boards and think tanks - by Frank Alvey.** *If you are petrified at the thought of having to stand up and say a few words, console yourself with the knowledge that there are thousands like you, and it's for people like you that this book is written.*
- **One Small Step: the inside story of space exploration - by David Whitehouse.** *Here is the most up-to-date history of man in space, researched by a NASA insider from*

astronaut interviews, diaries and speeches, with many revelations appearing in print for the first time, and even including material from top secret documents from the former Soviet Union.

- **Apple - by Adam Sutherland.** *The book covers how Apple came into being, the entrepreneurs behind the success of the brand, the key facts about the industry and Apple's impact in the global market.*
- **Coping with Population Growth - by Nicola Barber.** *Focuses on the pressure that population growth and unsustainable development is putting on the planet's resources, with particular emphasis on challenging readers to think about what they would do about a range of local and global environmental issues.*

Also available in **THE ENVIRONMENT CHALLENGE** series:

- • Avoiding Hunger and Finding Water
- • Promoting Health, Preventing Disease
- • Reducing Pollution and Waste
- • Sustaining our Natural Resources

Rebecca Really
Relieving Teacher Librarian

YEAR 12 FAREWELL DINNER & PRESENTATION

The GHS Year 12 Farewell & Presentation Dinner will be held at the Gunnedah Services & Bowling Club – Auditorium on Tuesday, November 15, 2011 commencing at 6.45pm. Dress is semi- formal.



2011 DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA NORTHERN INLAND INNOVATION AWARDS

Congratulations to the QuickSmart Team on being awarded runner-up in this year's Regional Development Australia Northern Inland Innovation Awards, in the Research & Education category. The awards dinner and gala presentation was held at the Gunnedah Services & Bowling Club on Friday October 28, 2011 with GHS QuickSmart co-ordinator, Ms Narelle Hertslet attending, along with the founders of the QuickSmart program, Professor John Peg and Dr Lorraine Graham. Congratulations to all concerned.

YEAR 8 ABORIGINAL CULTURE PROGRAM

Commencing on Wednesday, November 9, 2011 and continuing each Wednesday of November, relieving Aboriginal Education Officer, Michael Craig, will be conducting a series of Aboriginal cultural programs for approximately thirty Year 8 students. The program will include:

- Kamilaroi language
- Cultural dancing
- Music and crafts
- Health & relationships

The program will conclude with a cultural showcase for community members at the end of the program.

GHS TRIVIA NIGHT:GREECE 2012

A special 'Trivia Night' to raise funds towards our HSC Ancient History student's excursion to Athens in 2012, will be held in the GHS school hall on Friday, November 18, 2011. Cost is only \$10.00 per person, with a limit of 8 per team table. Team nominations, to Mr Dowe or Mr Stephenson, NOW or you might miss out. Are you smarter than a teacher?

AECG MEETING

The AECG: Aboriginal Education Consultation Group's Annual General Meeting (AGM) was held at the Gunnedah South Public School on Tuesday, 25th October 2011, with the following executive elected:

President: Gwen Griffen

Secretary: Linda Smyth

Treasurer: Sue Sutherland

Regional AECG representatives: Gwen Griffen and Michael Craig

YEAR 11 PARENT/CARERS: TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parents, carers and guardians are reminded that parent/teacher interviews will be held on Thursday, November 3, 2011 in the GHS Library from 4 – 6.00pm.

ATTENTION ALL PARENTS & CARERS:HEALTHY START FOR SCHOOL INITIATIVE

From July 1, 2011 if you and/or your partner receive an income support payment at any time during the financial year in which your child turns four (4), your child will be required to undergo a relevant health check to ensure they are healthy, fit and ready to start school.

A health check, for the Healthy Start for School Initiative, is an assessment of your child's physical health and general well-being and will include height, weight, hearing and vision.

For more information about relevant health checks, please consult your health professional, health clinic or contact the family Assistance Office on 13 6150.

The Uniform Shop

Tuesday: 8am-10am

Thursday: 1pm-3pm

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