

GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



**Excellence
and
innovation
in a
unique
and caring
School**

Find us at:

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Issue 1

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WHITEHAVEN COAL

11.2.2011

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first Newsletter for 2011.

It's wonderful to be back at Gunnedah High School as Principal again, this year, and I would like to thank all those who offered their kind words of support on my return to our school.

I would like to personally welcome all new parents to our school and in particular, our Yr 7 parents. We encourage you to be an active part of your child's learning and welcome you to come to school whenever you need to.

It was amazing to see all the students return to school in such a positive fashion. I am pleased with our enrolment numbers at this stage, as we have grown in all years except Yr 10 and Yr 11. This is due to students enrolling in TAFE, finding full time employment or moving to another town. I will formally submit our numbers to staff services for our annual staffing allocation next Wednesday. The whole school looks absolutely fantastic in their

uniform. While on uniform, I am concerned regarding the choice of footwear some students are wearing to school. Could I remind all students and parents/carers that the white or multi coloured slip on canvas shoes, or thongs, are not appropriate footwear for school under OH & S safety concerns and are banned. Please make alternate arrangements for fully enclosed footwear to be worn at all times to school by your child for their own safety.

Welcome all new staff to our school, particularly new members of our Executive Team, Ms Sally Chad (Rel DP – 8, 10 & 12), Mr Mal Gaukroger (HT PDHPE) and Ms Janene Wilkinson (Rel HT Maths). I hope the community will make them very welcome. I would like to take this opportunity to express my thanks to Mrs Allyson Watson for the marvellous job she did as Rel DP for the last three years and welcome her back as HT English. We also welcome back Suzanne Feodoroff after her six month deployment to EMSAD last year.

Last night we held our third Laptops 4 Learning Information Night for Yr 9 students and their parents. Approximately 180 people attended and laptops will be distributed to Yr 9 this week. Many thanks to Mr Barry McRae for the work he has done with this very important program.

Could I remind all parents that the DET does not have insurance cover for accidents that sometimes may occur at school. If you are interested in taking out accident insurance for your child we have information at school which covers this at a very reasonable rate. Please see the Admin Office staff to collect one.

I usually finish by providing an article of interest that I have recently read. I would like to share with you an extract from Mary Kennedy **"Attribution Error and the Quest for Teacher Quality"** Educational Researcher, November 2010, which I think sheds some light on teaching.

"Even when students are willing to co-operate, they are still children. They are immature, disorganised, unreliable, easily distractible and they begin their schooling with little or no experience of the kind of sustained, focused, purposeful work that is required for learning."

This simple fact - 'that teachers work with children rather than adults' - has profound implications for teachers. For their task is not merely to teach other human beings about school subjects, but also to teach them how to co-operate and how to learn, neither of which comes naturally, so that teachers must also persuade students that all of this is worthwhile."

Until our next newsletter.
Mr Rod Jones
Principal

NEW STAFF

Relieving Deputy Principal	Ms Sally Chad
English	Ms Erin Thompson
	Ms Belinda Scott
	Ms Sophie Coleman
Mathematics	Mr Allen Rolfe
	Ms Gemma Stoddart

	Ms Wendy Gill
	Mr John Frazer
Science	Mr Craig Sinclair
	Ms Kath Mathieson
	Ms Sarah Dando
HSIE	Mr Craig Spink
PDHPE	Mr Mal Gaukroger-HT
	Ms Marnie Greentree
TAS	Mr Ray Wilkinson
Tutorial Centre	Mr Benji Trieger



IMPORTANT REMINDER: NEW SCHOOL LEAVING AGE IS SEVENTEEN (17)

All students, parents, carers and guardians are reminded that the new legal school leaving age is 17. Students **MUST** remain at school, unless they have met the following criteria:

- Aged 17 years or older
- Have secured 'full-time' employment of 25 – 30 hours per week
- Entered a 'full-time' TAFE course

If students do wish to leave school, prior to completing Year 10 or turning 17 years of age, they must meet one of the leaving conditions mentioned above. They must also provide the GHS with a confirmation letter from their parents, carer or guardian, as well as a letter from their employer or TAFE administrator, so that they can be legally signed out of school. Students are also legally bound to return their GHS laptop computers to the school. Failure to meet their legal responsibilities in leaving school will prevent students from receiving any/all further government funding or assistance. Should you require any further information, please contact the GHS main office on 6742 0155.

GHS CANTEEN: HELP!

Canteen supervisor Mrs Sharon Newell urgently requires your assistance. For more information, please contact Sharon on 6742 1110.

COLEMAN SHIELD CRICKET: GHS V OXLEY HIGH SCHOOL

On Monday 7th February, the GHS Under 14 Boys cricket team got off to a good start for 2011, by defeating Oxley High School by 6 wickets, in Round 4 - North West Semi-Final of the Coleman Shield Knockout. After having the regional semi-final delayed by rain at the end of last year, the under 14 boys finally had the opportunity to take on Oxley High School. The boys had extra motivation to win, as it was Oxley who knocked them out of last year's competition.

It was a good toss for Gunnedah co-captains Justin Carter and Blake Small, to win as there was a bit of juice in the pitch after some overnight rain. Opening bowler, Tyrel Kruse, was quick to take advantage of the conditions with his third delivery an absolute corker, hitting the seam and moving away from the Oxley batsman, to give GHS wicket-keeper Blake Small a regulation catch with the gloves.

Keegan Lane, Justin Carter, Izaac Merlehan and Josh Day all produced smart, tight bowling to restrict Oxley to 1/49 at drinks, after 20 overs. Some excellent bowling and catching from Daniel Head and Blake Small saw Oxley High School crumble in the last 7 overs, losing 5 wickets for only 20 runs. Despite several dropped catches throughout the innings, including a couple of brave efforts from Tyrel Kruse and Daniel Head, the GHS boys remained very positive in the field. The team's genuine support for one another, especially from the always cheery and chirpy trio of Jack Grosser, Kih McDonald and Matt Hassan, was a key difference between Gunnedah and an Oxley side reliant on a few key players.

At the completion of their 40 overs, Oxley High School finished with 6 wickets for 111 runs.

In reply, Gunnedah's opening batting pair of Luke Curgenven and Sam Lumby produced a brilliant, patient partnership in challenging batting conditions and against quality bowlers, to put on 31 runs in the first 10 overs. Luke's hook shot was a feature, nicely complemented by Sam's piercing offside shots and solid defence.

Owen Stevens was promoted in the batting order and played well, hitting a massive six to get off the mark with the shot of the day. But it was co-captain, Blake Small, for the second time in two matches, who steered his team to victory, punishing anything short of a length to the boundary in an undefeated innings of 62.

With fellow co-captain, Justin Carter, joining Blake Small at the crease, Gunnedah passed the Oxley total of 111 runs in the 31st over, with 9 overs to spare. Gunnedah High School finished with 4 for 122, for a comfortable 6 wicket win.

Special thanks to the many parents who made the effort to come to school, enjoy the game and support the team. Gunnedah High School will now play the North West Regional Final of the Coleman Shield against either Glen Innes or Wee Waa, at a time and venue to be determined.

Score Summary:

Gunnedah won the toss and elected to field

Oxley HS 6/111 (40 overs)

- Daniel Head 2/13
- Blake Small 2/21
- Tyrel Kruse 1/18

Gunnedah HS 4/122 (31 overs)

- Blake Small 62*
- Luke Curgenven 22
- Justin Carter 2*

Gunnedah HS won by 6 wickets



2011 UNIVERSITY ROADSHOW:

The 2011 University Roadshow rolled into Gunnedah High School on Wednesday 9th February, with representatives from the University of New England, Charles Sturt University and Southern Cross University all providing very informative presentations. Students also have the opportunity to procure each University's 2011 prospectus, and discuss their own requirements with the University representatives, one-on-one.

GHS SWIMMING CARNIVAL

The 2011 GHS swimming carnival was held at the Gunnedah Memorial Pool on Friday 11th February. Results and photos will be in our next newsletter.

CONTACT PERSONS:

If you have concerns or wish to contact the school concerning the welfare or progress of your child the following Year Advisers are available:

Year 7	Ms Kristal Jones
Year 8	Ms Emma Holdom
Year 9	Mr Will Dowe
Year 10	Mr Will Stephenson
Year 11	Ms Simone Easthorpe
Year 12	Mr Robert Heath

If the matter is of a serious nature, Mr Murray Borham is in charge of 7, 9 & 11 and Ms Sally Chad is in charge of 8, 10 & 12.

DEPRESSION RECOVERY PROGRAM: A MENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAM

Sessions for this 8 week program, designed to assist you to discover renewed happiness, will be held at the Gunnedah Services & Bowling Club every Monday evening during February and March 2011, commencing at 7.00pm. For more information, contact David on 0429 693 387.

UNIFORM SHOP:

JANUARY 2011 OPENING TIMES

Tuesday: 8.00am – 10.00am

Thursday: 1.00pm – 3.00pm

You can contact Alinta Apparel on (02) 6742 6939, or after hours on line @ www.alintaapparel.com.au or by email gunnedahhigh@alinta.com.au

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS:



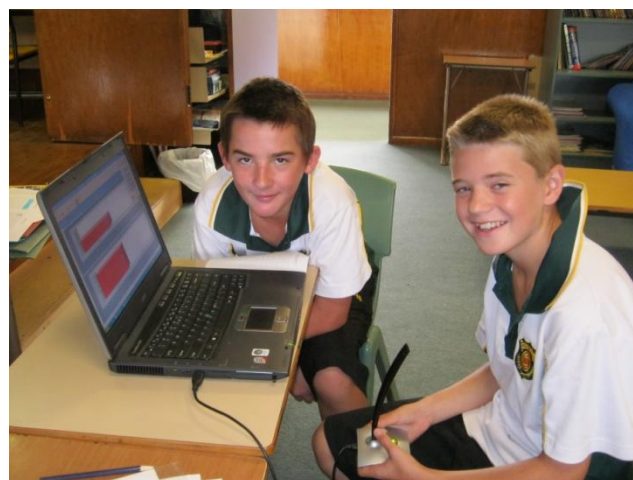
Year Photo \$27.00

Year Pack including Portrait \$32.00

Family Portraits are also available

QUICKSMART 2011

QuickSmart - Literacy has commenced for Term 1, with 13 new Year 7 students participating. They are: Jim Pease, Jacob Murray, Andrew Mackay, Daniel Wise, Jack Robinson, Dylan Jordan, Jeremy Keynes, Kiara Endicott, Courtney Davis, Matthew Faulkner, Rhiannon Smith, Bailey Lewis and Chris Gort



SCHOOL CONTRIBUTIONS

The general fees are used to enhance the many programs which operate in the school.

There is a \$5.00 deduction on the General Fee for second or subsequent children.

The subject fees are mainly used to provide consumable items required for specific courses. It is clearly more efficient and cheaper for the school to purchase food, timber, metal, paint, etc., than to ask individual students to bring in their own materials. The subject fees also assist to buy other resources such as texts, cameras etc.

All students in Visual Arts and Photography are expected to have a diary which is available from the Canteen. Year 12 Visual Arts students must buy all their own materials. Design and Technology and Industrial Technology students will be required to purchase project material. Hospitality students will be required to purchase the relevant uniform.

Our fees are amongst the lowest charged in NSW and, as a result, we seek a high collection rate. An invoice will be posted home showing the school contribution requested for each individual student. Payment may be made in three instalments. These payments may be made at the school office between 8.30am and 1pm (due to security banking) or by post. Payments may be made by cash, cheque (made payable to Gunnedah High School) or EFTPOS (minimum \$20.00).

Parents who are unable to pay for elective subject fees because of financial hardship may be eligible for assistance from the Student Assistance Scheme. Requests for financial assistance should be made in writing on a pro-forma available from the front office, addressed to the Principal and marked 'CONFIDENTIAL'

YEAR 7

General Fee	\$50.00
Visual Arts	\$25.00
Technology	\$25.00

YEAR 8

General Fee	\$50.00
Visual Arts	\$25.00
Technology	\$25.00

YEAR 9

General Fee	\$50.00
Photography	\$50.00
Food Technology	\$25.00

Timber	\$35.00
Metal	\$35.00
Electronics	\$70.00
Agriculture	\$10.00
Textiles & Design	\$20.00
Visual Arts	\$50.00

YEAR 10

General Fee	\$50.00
Photography	\$50.00
Food Technology	\$25.00
Timber	\$35.00
Metal	\$35.00
Electronics	\$70.00
Agriculture	\$10.00
Textiles & Design	\$20.00
Visual Arts	\$50.00
IST(Computers)	\$10.00

YEAR 11

General Fee	\$60.00
Visual Arts	\$50.00
Hospitality	\$65.00
Industrial Tech	\$40.00
Construction	\$10.00
Design & Technology	\$20.00
Photography	\$50.00
Agriculture	\$25.00
Early Childhood	\$10.00
Technology-Multi Media	\$10.00

YEAR 12

General Fee	\$60.00
Photography	\$50.00
Hospitality	\$65.00
Industrial Technology	\$20.00
Visual Arts	\$50.00
Agriculture	\$15.00
Construction	\$10.00
Design & Technology	\$20.00
Early Childhood	\$10.00
Technology-Multi Media	\$10.00

PARENT/CARER CONTACT INFORMATION

If your mailing address, phone numbers or email address has changed, please contact the front office on 67420155 or fill out the form on the back page.

A CALL FOR MENTORS! PLAN-IT YOUTH MENTORING

Plan-It Youth is a school based mentoring program for students in Year 10. The program links community members with young people who may need extra support to continue at school or prepare for the transition from school to work or to further education and training. Some community members have already become mentors and have found it a very rewarding experience. We would now like to find some more.

The commitment is usually **an hour a week for approximately 8-10 weeks** (a school term). Full training is provided and will be held at the school on Tuesday 1 March 2011 at 9:30. Mentoring will be on Tuesdays at 9:15 each week.

The Mentor works with the same student each week. As a mentor you will help them to explore their options and gain confidence in dealing with employers.

If you feel you would like to be a part of PiY please contact: Ann Thomas-Gunnedah High School



Mark Giandomenico

Plan-it Youth Coordinator
88 Gunnedah Rd, Tamworth 2340 | Ph: 67 657 088 | Fax: 67 653 506
Mob: 0401 798210
Mark.Giandomenico@det.nsw.edu.au

For further Information go to:

www.planityouth.org.au

OPEN BOYS CRICKET: GHS V DUVAL HIGH SCHOOL

GHS open boys cricket team took to the school oval against Duval High School last Monday, in the north-west regional final. Having won the toss, GHS sent Duval in to bat and got off to a flying start, with lanky speedster Jacob Bee-Gill snaring the wicket of the Duval opener with a great caught & bowled, on only his fifth delivery, to have GHS at 1 for 1 after the first over.

With JB-G leading the way, the GHS team showed a tonne of spirit in the field to support their bowling attack, and after 36 of the designated 40 overs, had Duval all out for 99 runs. GHS bowlers Jacob Bee-Gill (4 for 12), Ethan Stevens (3 for 10) and Blake Small (3 for 31) grabbed the wickets and were well

supported by fellow bowlers Hunter Richards (0-18) and Lachlan Merlehan (0-24).

After a short break, and a quick pep talk from coach, Mr Kel Walls, the GHS openers, Luke Curgenven and Kameron Manks, took to the pitch to begin the run chase of 100 to win.

As reigning north-west regional champions, Duval were up to the task and quickly brought GHS back to earth with 2 quick wickets in the first 3 overs, to have GHS on the ropes at 2 for 7. With Jake Vigor at the crease, GHS began to show a little spirit as he hit a solid 22 runs, but the wickets continued to fall. The normally reliable Ethan Stevens and Matt Lane fell cheaply and GHS were eventually all out for 55 runs, to give Duval a 44 run victory.

Whilst disappointed with the result, the GHS team can be well satisfied with their overall efforts to make the regional final in this year's competition, and feel confident of further improvement and success in the future.



ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

Students must bring in a note to explain an absence. The notes need to contain these details:

Home address	Student's roll call number
Phone contact number	Student's Year
Date	Date(s) of absence
Parent's/Carer's signature	
Reason for absence	
+ Sick-doctor's appointment	
+ Leave eg family-funeral, holiday or business	

Students should hand this note to their roll call teacher. If your child is absent from school please feel free to ring the office stating this and the reason why.

In special cases of extended leave, parents/carers are required to apply for an exemption via the Principal.

TO EXPLAIN LATENESS TO SCHOOL

If a student arrives late to school they need to have a note with a valid reason explaining their lateness. If a student is absent 2 consecutive days the phone home contact person will ring requesting details. Unexplained lateness is a form of truancy. Parents will be contacted when lateness is unexplained. Students who arrive after 9.05am must report to C8. Reasons the Department of Education will not accept for when a student is late for school:

- My child slept in
- My son/daughter is late because we drove too slow

From 9.15 onwards, students must sign in at the front office with a note from the parent/carer

PLEASE NOTE

Notes of explanation delivered at the correct time enables the staff to concentrate on your child's educational needs.

Thank you for your co-operation.

FOR PASS OUTS

		SCHOOL LEAVE PASS FOR PARTIAL ABSENCE	
Name	_____	Year	_____
School	GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL	Telephone	_____
Time leaving & returning	_____		
Signed	_____		

Students who need to leave the school grounds during the day must bring a note of explanation to the Front Office between 8.45am and 9am to receive their official DET Pass Out. Staff will not be available at other times to issue the pass outs. Notes of explanation should include the following information. (A Pass Out can not be granted for hair appointments).

Phone contact number	Date of Pass Out
Student's roll call number	Time of absence-leave & return
Student's Year	Parent's/Carer's signature
Reason for Pass Out	
Sick-doctor's appointment	
Leave eg family-funeral, holiday or business	

2011 CAPTAINS, VICE CAPTAINS & SPORTING HOUSE CAPTAINS

School Captains

Evan Piefke

Gabriel Reynolds

Vice Captains

Hayden West

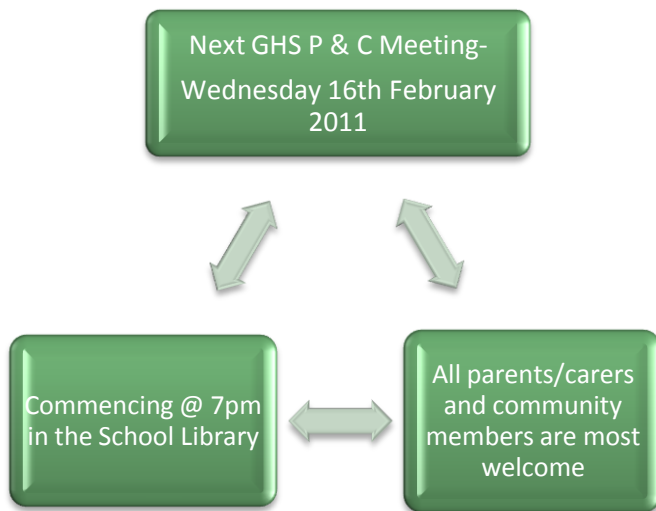
Grace Curgenvin



Sports Captains

		Kaputar Alex Stengert Jake Vigor
		Nandewar Marie-Ellen Griffiths Hunter Richards
		Illawarra Emily Gardner Patrick Thurston
		Moonbi Amber Burns Jacob Bee-Gill

P & C ASSOCIATION: GET INVOLVED



OUT OF UNIFORM:

A note must be brought to school from a parent/carer to explain why a student is out of uniform for that day. The notes should be shown to his/her roll call teacher during roll call. The student needs to keep the note on them all day in case other teachers ask them about uniform.

Any uniform enquiries should be made to your student's Year Adviser.

GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL ON AIR WITH RADIO 2MO/2GGG:

For all the news from the Gunnedah High School, be sure to tune in to Gunnedah's **Radio 2MO** (1080 AM) every Wednesday morning at 8.15am, and **97.5FM/2GGG** also every Wednesday morning at 8:20am, when GHS Community Liaison Officer Ray McCoy takes a look at what's happening at the Gunnedah High School.

GHS NEWSLETTER:

The GHS newsletter is now available from The Gunnedah Newsagency, The Civic Newsagency and the Gunnedah Library.

Gunnedah Music Centre

2011 Program

Choir Programs commence Week 3

The Treble Makers: A choir for primary school children (Years 3-6) with experienced choirmaster, Marg Amos.

Wednesdays @ 4:30pm from 16 Feb

High School Choir: A choir for high school students with experienced choirmaster, Jamie Brown. This choir will focus on a broad cross-section of music including the latest from Glee.

Tuesdays @ 4:45pm from 15 Feb

Early Childhood Music

Singing group (5-8years): Designed for children in Years K-2, Singers are taught songs & musical games to develop skills in pitch & rhythm, concentration & co-ordination, as well as activities designed to help them find their singing voice. Songs will predominantly be in unison or rounds & incorporate simple movement information.

Wednesdays @ 3:30pm for 6 weeks from 23 Feb

Individual Tuition

Enrolments open for violin, drums, guitar & piano. Classes are conducted from our studios at 90 Barber Street, at participating local schools during schools hours & Boggabri (guitar only). Instrument not listed? Please contact the Gunnedah Music & we will endeavour to engage tutors in that area.

NOW ENROLLING

CALL 6742 3998 for more information

Gunnedah Music Centre is partly funded by the *NSW Department of Education & Training* and is a member of the *Association of Regional Conservatoriums*.

Would you like the Newsletter Emailed to you, or have you changed your address or phone number. If so, could you please fill out your details below and return the form to the front office.

NAME: _____

CHILD'S NAME/S: _____

HOME PHONE NUMBER & MOBILE NUMBER: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

I would like to have the Newsletter Emailed:

Email Address _____