

GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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

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Issue 5

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06.04.2011

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Newsletter.

This is the last Newsletter for Term 1. I just don't know where the term has gone.

Last week our school team completed the 2010 Annual School Report. This is a huge task and I would especially like to publicly thank Mr Andrew Snowden for the fantastic effort he has done in the production of the ASR. When looking at some of our achievements over 2010 it makes you realise what a great school we have. It will shortly be uploaded onto our website for the public to view.

On Wednesday 30th March, our School Education Director, Miss Ruythe Dufty, spent three and a half hours with me in our school as part of my Principal's Assessment and Review Scheme (PARS) meeting. It is always great to have Miss Dufty in our school and we discussed many of the new initiatives which are taking place this year and also some which I am looking to implement next year. It's terrific being able to showcase the talents of our students, staff and school in such a positive light.

Last Thursday night I had the pleasure of attending our induction dinner for the 2011 Senior Council representatives at the Services Club. This was a fantastic night and the entire Senior Council are truly worthy of their places and it was great to watch very proud parents pin on the badges. It just reinforced again that we have some wonderful young men and women at this school. Many thanks must go to Miss Simone Easthorpe for the organisation of this presentation.

On Tuesday 5th April I will travel to Sydney to participate in the 2011 NSW Schools Naga Mai Awards. We nominate a number of students and community members for awards this year and it gives me great pleasure to announce that Mrs Gwen Griffen will receive the award for 'Outstanding Contribution to Aboriginal Education by a Community Member'. I would like to congratulate Gwen on receiving this prestigious award and look forward to being present when she accepts it.

Could I thank all staff at Gunnedah High School for their hard work and professionalism over the course of Term 1 and wish everyone a safe and restful break.

With the cooler weather soon to come, could I ask all parents and carers to ensure that their children come to



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school in our school uniform and not in the multi coloured sloppy joes which detract from our identity as a proud school.

I usually finish by providing an article of interest that I have recently read.

FUNDING

School funding certainty a step closer

The Hon Peter Garrett MP, Minister for School Education, Early Childhood and Youth, 23 March, 2011

Today the Schools Assistance Amendment (Financial Assistance) Bill 2011, successfully passed through the Senate. The legislation provides certainty to Catholic and independent schools through the extension of existing funding until the end of 2013, and capital expenditure until 2014.

School Education Minister Peter Garrett said the Bill will deliver on the Gillard Government's election commitment to extend existing funding arrangements whilst the Review of School Funding takes place.

Mr Garrett said the Gillard Government had taken a once-in-a-generation opportunity to reform the way our schools are funded.

"This Review gives every Australian the chance to have their say," Mr Garrett said.

Submissions relating to the Emerging Issues Paper released last year by the Review of Funding for Schooling panel can be made online or in writing until Thursday 31 March 2011 at www.deewr.gov.au/fundingreview.

"The Government has almost doubled school funding to \$64.9 billion since 2007 with the aim of helping students in all schools," he said.

Read more:

http://www.deewr.gov.au/Ministers/Garrett/Media/Releases/Pages/Article_110324_082816.aspx

Until our next newsletter.

Mr Rod Jones
Principal

GHS NEWSLETTER

The GHS newsletter is now available from The Gunnedah Newsagency, The Civic Newsagency, Verdict Coffee Lounge, Hollywood on Conadilly and the Gunnedah Library.

SENIOR COUNCIL

CAPTAINS: Gabriel Reynolds Evan Piefke
VICE CAPTAINS: Grace Curgenven Hayden West



YEAR 12 MEMBERS

Jacob Bee- Gill	Amber Burns
Courtney Jordan	Simone King
Anika Riley	Brittany Riley
Rose Squire	James Stewart

YEAR 11 MEMBERS

Molly Batinic	Liana Goninon
Thomas Hassan	Bradley Sandercock
Lauren Swain	Brodie Waterford



GUNNEDAH SHIRE LIBRARY OPENING HOURS

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

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE GUNNEDAH SHIRE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED FROM GOOD FRIDAY, 22ND APRIL TILL TUESDAY, 26TH APRIL AND WILL RE-OPEN WEDNESDAY, 27TH APRIL 2011.

ATTENTION YEAR 10 STUDENTS

Peel Valley Group is looking for Year 10 School-based Trainees for 2012. Traineeships are available in the following: Ag/Truck Service (2), Car Service (1) & Spare Parts (1) and will include:

- 1 day per week at TAFE
- 1 day per week in the workplace
- Nationally accredited qualification
- Possible apprenticeship

For more details in regard to a special information evening, please contact Mr Martin Gillies, Compliance & Training Manager, on (02) 6768 3111 before Friday, 29th April 2011.

GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL DARE TO LEAD

GHS Aboriginal Education Officer, Mrs Helen Lickorish, and School Learning Support Officer, Mrs Anne Thomas, along with Co-ordinator Aboriginal Education, Ms Judy Squire, have once again been recognised for their great work in Aboriginal education, by having been selected to make a 45 minute presentation at the National Indigenous Conference 2011, held in Canberra on Friday, April 1.

Ms Squire and Mrs Thomas travelled to Canberra to make the presentation that included a brief overview of GHS's 'Levelling the Playing Field' approach to education, under the school's mission statement: "Our mission is to develop the whole person in a caring, positive and compassionate environment that emphasises excellence, tolerance and individual responsibility".

With a proactive educational philosophy of "Integrate .. Don't Segregate", The Gunnedah High School continues to set new bench-marks in Aboriginal education, community awareness and social activity.

GHS ON AIR WITH RADIO 2MO/2GGG

During the Easter school holidays, be sure to tune into Gunnedah's **Radio 2MO (1080AM)** each Wednesday morning at 8.15am, and **2GGG (97.5FM)** each Wednesday at 8.20am, when GHS Community Liaison Officer Ray McCoy, takes a look at what's happening in the Gunnedah community.

SPORT

The GHS 15 Year and Under boys' soccer team played their first round of the Bill Turner Cup Knockout Competition against Carinya Christian School in Tamworth on Monday, March 21st.

The boys have now played together for a couple of years, and their team-work and solid training efforts provided them with a sound base to score a convincing 10-0 victory. While delighted with the win, the team has some improvements to make before their next game against the winner of Narrabri and Moree, at a date and venue to be announced.

Touch NSW held their annual Regional Qualifier for Year 9/10 boys' and girls' teams on Tuesday, March 22nd. Both the Gunnedah teams displayed sound skills and sportsmanship on the day, to make their way into the semi-final rounds. Although both teams played well, they were unable to confirm a spot in the finals. Teachers attending were Miss Simone Easthorpe and Mr Will Dowe

LIVERPOOL ZONE SPORT TRIALS

Over 35 GHS students, having gained selection in the Liverpool Zone representative teams, travelled to Armidale on Thursday, 31st March to compete for North-West Region representative honours in open boys' and 15 boys' rugby league, Open Boys' and Girls' Football (soccer) and Open Girls' Netball.

While GHS failed to gain any representatives in either rugby league or netball, with a number of players deemed to be very unlucky to miss selection, congratulations go to Kameron Manks and Hunter Richards who have been selected to represent North-West CHS in the open boys' football (soccer).

TERM1 REWARDS DAY

Congratulations to all the students from Year 7-10 who have been rewarded for their positive behaviour, attendance & attitude to learning during Term 1. Over 100 eligible students received a \$5.00 voucher for the GHS canteen.



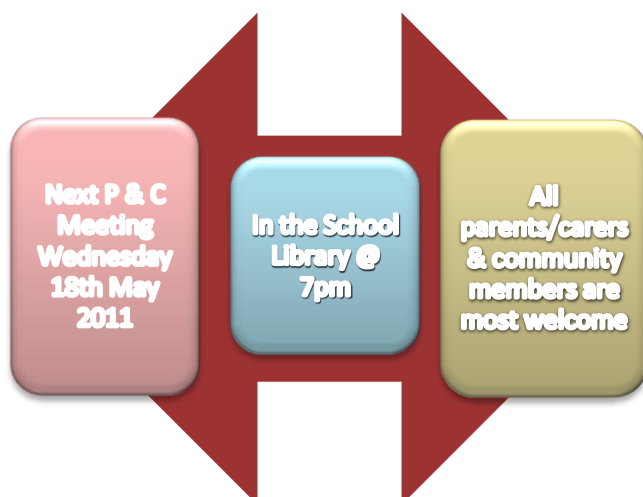
NSW JUNIOR COUNTRY SCHOOLS CHESS LEAGUE 2011

On Monday 28th March, the Gunnedah High School Chess team defeated St. Mary's College in the first round of the annual NSW Junior Chess League for secondary schools. After several weeks of trials in the school library, the GHS team of Benj Porter, Jim Pease, Cameron Hall and Alistair MacDougall put in a superb effort to defeat St Mary's 4-0. With the Round Two draw yet to be released, students are reminded that everyone is eligible for a place in the GHS chess team for the upcoming game. Trials and friendly games will continue in the library during the first and last breaks of the week (Monday at recess and Friday at lunch). Anyone interested in the competition or the team's progress can keep track on the

NSW Junior Chess League website:
<http://www.nswjcl.org.au/>.



P & C ASSOCIATION:



GHS ANCIENT HISTORY TOUR GREECE 2012

Following a very successful excursion to France in 2010, our next stop for GHS Year 11 & 12 Ancient History students is Greece. The nine day tour of ancient Greece, under the guidance of GHS HSIE teacher, Mr Will Stephenson, is scheduled for the Easter holidays in 2012. But to get the ball rolling, a special 'information evening' for all interested students, parents & carers was held in the school library on Tuesday, April 5th 2011. In 2012, 'Greece is the word'.

The Uniform Shop

Tuesday: 8am-10am

Thursday: 1pm-3pm

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