

GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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

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Issue 6

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06.05.2011

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Newsletter and the start of Term 2.

It is with much sadness that I devote this newsletter report to the tragic loss of one of our Year 11 students, Ethan Robert Stevens, in a car accident on Saturday, 30th April 2011.

Ethan was an outstanding young Aboriginal man.

As a school, we held an assembly on Monday morning to honour and pay our respect to Ethan. It was a moving assembly and for the entire time you could have heard a pin drop. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Ethan's family and friends, in this very sad time.



I remember Ethan as a vibrant, fun loving and energetic young man who certainly had a love for life, his family, friends and the sports that he was so renowned for.

Ethan was such a personable young man who always greeted and treated me with respect and was willing to have a joke and show me his friendship. He had a special greeting for me that will remain firmly fixed in my mind and I will always treasure this with many other very fond memories.

A staff member said to me this week, "Ethan was always SO friendly and polite to me and that smile of his was so, so memorable." I think many staff members would echo this comment. Ethan was a very well liked and respected member of our school and often helped to support other junior students when they were having difficulties. His open nature and his ability to know when to show compassion, or be firm, was a trait well above his years.

Ethan's most endearing legacy will be his sportsmanship. What an outstanding athlete. Rugby League and Cricket were his passions, but Athletics was also a sport he excelled in. I, like many others, firmly believe that this young man had a wonderful future in sport and life ahead of him.

On the sporting field he was as tough as nails and showed immense leadership qualities for someone so young. His drive and determination, to always do his best and support his team and their players won him so much respect from coaches and players alike.

I found myself being quite envious of Ethan in many ways. He had a sport talent that most men would be proud of, a smile that was just infectious, and for me, a magnificent crop of black hair that I would have given anything for.

Ethan Robert Stevens was an outstanding role model for our young Aboriginal boys, his family and our community alike. He was a shining light in so many ways, and like so many other young people, has left us before fulfilling his full potential. Ethan may no longer be with us, but he will never be forgotten.

To his family and friends, our school offers its sincere condolences.

To a fine young man: 'Rest in Peace'.

Mr. Rod Jones
Principal

SCIENCE/AG DEPARTMENT: NAME THIS TRACTOR



With the acquisition of the new Kubota tractor at the end of Term 1, to help support the Ag Department's Year 9 syllabus in Tractors & Machinery: Safe Operation, Science/Agriculture Department Head Teacher, Mr Stuart McVittie, has a problem: What do we call it? That's right, the tractor needs a name.

As the tractor will play a vital role in the continued growth of the GHS Agricultural department, it is only fitting that, as a new member of the GHS family, it be given an appropriate name.

Some suggestions from staff members have included: The Orange Terror, the Jaffa and also the Orange Blossom Special.

But what do you think it should be called? We urge all students, parents and carers to give this issue the

same consideration that you would in naming a new child and all suggestions should be directed to Mr McVittie in the Science staffroom.

The 'winner' will be announced at a gala assembly at a date to be announced.

OVERSEAS STUDENT EXCHANGE: SHARE AUSTRALIA WITH THE WORLD

Bring a piece of the world into your home by becoming a volunteer host family to an exchange student from Italy, France, Brazil, Belgium, or The Netherlands this July.



Hosting a student encourages families to see Australia through the eyes of an exchange student. Invite a motivated teenage student into your home for a term, semester or year and gain a new family member and friend for life.

Become a WEP Host Family – It's Easy!

Simply submit your host family application and choose your student. Before you know it you'll be communicating with your new family member while everything else is organised by WEP!

FIND OUT MORE!

Contact WEP today for a FREE information pack.

Phone: 1300 884 733

Web: www.wep.org.au

Email: info@wep.org.au



World Education Program (WEP) Australia is an Australian, not-for-profit student exchange organisation, determined to make a difference by helping young people of different cultures gain insight and understanding about other ways of life and world views.

P & C ASSOCIATION

The next GHS P&C meeting will be held on Wednesday, 18th May 2011 at 7:00pm in the school Library. All parents, carers and community members are most welcome, so come along and be involved!

GHS CANTEEN AGM

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) for the GHS Canteen committee will be held on Monday, 23rd May 2011 at 4:00pm in C Block, Room 9 (C9). For further information, please contact Mrs Margaret Kersley on 6742 3331.

GHS ON AIR WITH RADIO 2MO/2GGG

Be sure to tune into 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 at the Gunnedah High School.

The Uniform Shop
 Tuesday: 8am-10am
 Thursday: 1pm-3pm
 (02) 6742 6939
gunnedahhigh@alinta.com.au



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www.alintaapparel.com.au
 Save time by purchasing online!
 Home delivery options!

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.

GHS CANTEEN NEEDS YOUR HELP

Canteen Supervisor, Mrs Sharon Newell, urgently requires your assistance during Term 2. For more information, please contact Sharon at the school canteen on 6742 1110.

GUNNEDAH MIDBASKET NIGHTBALL

GUNNEDAH MIDBASKET NIGHTBALL

STARTS Saturday 7th May @ 7.30PM – MIDNIGHT

- VOLUNTEER NOW!! Variety of roles available. Basketball knowledge not necessary**

REGISTER NOW – WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT!

Register Online:

www.midnightbasketball.org.au/locations/gunnedah

Or contact: Mel McCulloch 67421515

NAPLAN TESTS

National Assessment Program: Literacy and Numeracy will be held for Year 7 and 9 students from 10-12 May 2011.

Year	Tuesday 10 May	Wednesday 11 May	Thursday 12 May
Year 7	Language Conventions 45 minutes	Reading 65 minutes	Numeracy <u>Calculator</u> 40 minutes
			<u>Non-calculator</u> 40minutes
Year 9	Language Conventions 40 minutes	Reading 65 minutes	Numeracy <u>Calculator</u> 40 minutes
	Writing 40 minutes		<u>Non-calculator</u> 40 minutes

Friday 13 May – A 'catch-up' day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

ANZAC DAY 2011

It has been an honour for Gunnedah High School to participate in the 2011 Gunnedah and District ANZAC Day services. On the final day of Term 1, the school held its first ANZAC day service in the new gymnasium. Numerous students assisted in preparation for the day. They helped to set up seating, prepare audio visual equipment, perform musical items and run the service.



Year 7 Master of Ceremonies (L-R) Jye Hicks, Mitchell Davidson, Ciara Eveleigh and Allison Clark

As has been the case in the last number of years we have recruited Year 7 students to run the service. They are to be commended for presenting and reading so well in front of a large audience. The new venue allowed for a multimedia presentation on the meaning of ANZAC Day in addition to the traditional service activities held at the school.



The Last Post and Rouse Performed by Teagan Brownrigg

Student participation was outstanding in Gunnedah and District services on ANZAC Day. Over 40 students participated in the Gunnedah march. When totalled, well over 10% of our students participated in the various holiday services. Many of our students also represented other groups such as the SES, bands and cadets. Speakers were Gabriel Reynolds and Evan Piefke (Gunnedah), Grace Curgenvin (Curlewis) and Kayla Gillham (Boggabri).

First Name	Last Name	Year	Service Attended
Kayla	Gillham	11	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Matthew	Gillham	9	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Brooke	Martin	7	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Jennifer	Furner	7	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Courtney	Grace - Coggan	9	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Sophie	Hendrie	9	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Ashlee	Haire	10	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Sheree	Smith	10	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Zac	Block	10	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Liana	Block	8	Anzac Day - Boggabri

Marissa	Weribone	7	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Liana	Goninon	11	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Janika	Readett	7	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Aaron	Hobden	11	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Nicholas	Hobden	7	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Jack	Cassidy	7	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Samantha	Turner	8	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Karly	Turner	7	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Brendan	Gillham	8	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Matthew	Martin	9	Anzac Day - Boggabri
Tabither	Alker	12	Anzac Day - Curlewis
Grace	Curgenvin	12	Anzac Day - Curlewis
Luke	Curgenvin	9	Anzac Day - Curlewis
Bradley	Sandercock	11	Anzac Day - Curlewis
Adam	Curgenvin	9	Anzac Day - Curlewis
Breanna	Green	8	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Benjamin	Traynor	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Nicolas	Traynor	10	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Jordan	Lumby	10	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Lachlan	Merlehan	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Cameron	Merlehan	10	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Izaak	Merlehan	8	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Jacob	Bee - Gill	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Brodie	Waterford	10	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Lara	Guest	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Lachlan	Trafford	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Jack	Robinson	7	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Michaela	Langdon	7	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Mikalea	Pease	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Keria	Fernando	7	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Jennifer	Gimbert - Morris	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Shayne	Fuller	10	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Kaitlin	Skavinski	7	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Tom	Hassan	11	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Hannah	Langdon	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Krystal	Lynch	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Evan	Piefke	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Gabriel	Reynolds	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Harry	Guest	7	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Grace	Curgenvin	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Mitchell	Brandon	8	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Jarod	Reynolds	8	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Allison	Clark	7	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Sarah	Clark	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Carys	Griffith	7	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Amber	Burns	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Patrick	Thurston	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Tabither	Alker	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Xanthe	Robinson	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Bianca	Day	7	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Molly	Batinic	11	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Breanna	Jones	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Rhianna	Hill	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Darcy	Hill	7	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Josh	Day	9	Anzac Day - Gunnedah
Tom	Hassan	11	Anzac Day School Service
Cyril	Riley	8	Anzac Day School Service
Michael	Hill	8	Anzac Day School Service
Kasper	Jaeger	7	Anzac Day School Service
Mitchell	Davidson	7	Anzac Day School Service
Matt	Hassan	9	Anzac Day School Service
Brodie	Waterford	11	Anzac Day School Service
Jye	Hicks	7	Anzac Day School Service
Ciara	Eveleigh	7	Anzac Day School Service
Allison	Clark	7	Anzac Day School Service
Gabriel	Reynolds	12	Anzac Day - Gunnedah

All participating students have been given a School and Community certificate. Please contact the school if there have been any errors or omissions.

