

GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



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Issue 10

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30.06.2011

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our Newsletter.

We have finally made it through to the end of Semester 1. The student reports are completed and should already be with all families in preparation for Parent/Teacher interviews this Thursday, June 30 between 4pm and 7pm. I would like to say a huge "thank you" to Mr Barry McRae and all the Year Advisers for their co-operation and support in finalising the reports.

Please come along to the GHS hall and receive important feedback on your child's progress. We have strategically put five Year groups together this year, so your support for both the school and your child's education is appreciated. I would also like to thank Ms Suzanne Feodoroff and Mr Kelvin Walls for their meticulous organisation for the interviews, as well as Ms Squire and her team for preparing the afternoon tea.

A very successful SiP meeting was held on June 17 to discuss our current programs and to also seek advice for future directions with regards to SiP funding. Thank you to all the committee members for their valuable input and professionalism. Remember, when we work together we can make a difference.

Year 12 commenced their Trial HSC Examinations last week and we trust that the necessary preparation was made by those students for these extremely important assessment tasks. We hope that they performed to their very best and will continue to push themselves in Term 3 in preparation for the HSC.

As we reach the end of Term 2, we do say farewell to a number of staff: Mr Stephen Paull (TAS) has relinquished his position and is moving to Brisbane, Ms Sarah Dando (Science) has accepted a position at G.S. Kidd and Ms Lalla Jones (CAPA) has resigned from her temporary position to return home to Woolgoolga. We thank these staff members for their efforts and wish them well in their future careers.

In closing, we hope that all students, staff and their families enjoy a safe and relaxing holiday period. There will not be a Staff Development Day to begin Term 3 as it will be held during Ag Quip week on Wednesday, August 17. This means that all students will return to Gunnedah High School on Monday, July 18.

Kind regards

Mr Murray Borham
Relieving Principal

TERM 3 BEGINS MONDAY, JULY 18 2011

There will not be a Staff Development Day to begin Term 3 as it will be held during Ag Quip week on Wednesday, August 17. This means that all students will return to Gunnedah High School on Monday, July 18.

YEAR 9 DRAMA STUDENTS VISIT BOGGABRI PRIMARY SCHOOL

Year 9 Drama students have recently been studying physical comedy and clowning. For their assessment task students had to devise a short 'skit' using these elements, and aimed at entertaining six to twelve year olds. After many hours of rehearsing, the skits were put to the ultimate test when Year 9 visited Boggabri Primary School on the 8th June to perform for the young students. Although there was some stage fright at first from the actors, they managed to break through their tough audience. The primary students were in stitches by the end (and some teachers too!). Highlights included Sarah Clarke who played the host, introduced the skits and kept the audience engaged while performers set the stage. Others included Jasper Squire and Brodie Small who ventured into the audience and encouraged a student to put a cream pie into the face of another clown. All students enjoyed the performance and are looking forward to repeating it soon. Thank you to Mr Cameron who drove the bus to Boggabri and to the enthusiastic audience at the school. Another successful performance was delivered at South School on Wednesday morning of this week.

DRUGS! NO-WAY SEMINAR

"Wow, what an incredible seminar". That was the overwhelming response from GHS students and staff members who attended the special "Drugs-No Way" seminar that was held at the Gunnedah High School last Friday morning with Mr Darren Marton.

Mr Marton visited Gunnedah earlier this year to address the Group 4 Under 16 rugby league representative team as part of the Country Rugby League's health & code of conduct policy Gunnedah High School's Community Liaison Officer, Mr Ray McCoy, was so impressed with the presentation that he recommended the seminar to the Gunnedah Shire Council's Youth Co-ordinator, Mr Jamie Brown as a positive educational program for the youth of the Gunnedah community.

Whilst the original concept was to have Mr Marton present the "Drugs-No Way" seminar at a number of venues in the community throughout the day, the Gunnedah High School has been congratulated on their pro-active attitude to educating the youth of our community, as they were the only venue to take advantage of the opportunity to host this amazing seminar.

With all but Year 12 in attendance (they are currently sitting their trial exams), Mr Marton presented the students with a very personal and informative presentation of the downfalls of alcohol and drugs abuse. Why is this program so successful? It's very simple.

As a gifted young sportsman, with the world at his feet, seminar co-ordinator Mr Darren Marton has lived the life, experienced the highs and lows and suffered the pitfalls of his bad choices when it came to drugs and alcohol.

But thanks to his grit, determination and drive to make sure that the youth of Australia are provided with the opportunity to learn from his mistakes, Mr Marton is like a breath of fresh air as he educates the community, both young and old, of the pitfalls of life's bad choices.

The No-Way Campaign Foundation was formed in 2006 and is a leading drug and alcohol prevention program that encourages and empowers young people to make healthy and positive lifestyle choices, so as to remain drug free. The foundation is focused on prevention through educating the youth of Australia about the real dangers and consequences associated with illicit drugs and alcohol. www.thenowaycampaign.com

MUSIC-MUSIC-MUSIC

Gunnedah High School's Year 12 Music class 2011 will present an Evening of "HSC Performances" on Wednesday, 10th August from 7pm in the GHS Auditorium.

Features of the evening will include;

- Music for Small and Large Ensembles
- Popular Music
- Music from the 19th, 20th and 21st Centuries

This is a wonderful opportunity to hear students perform pieces that they will present in their upcoming HSC practical examinations. All parents, families and friends of the students are most welcome, as are interested members of the public. Admission is free.

GHS PARENT & TEACHER INTERVIEWS

Parent & Teacher interviews for students in Years 7 to 11 were held on Thursday, June 30th 2011 in the school hall between 4-7.00pm. Thank you to all the parents/carers who attended for their valued support.

YEAR 8 COFFS HARBOUR EXCURSION

There are only FIVE seats left for any Year 8 students wishing to come to Coffs Harbour on October 12th-14th. A \$35 deposit was due last week but can be paid by the end of Week 1, Term 3. Contact Miss Holdom for more details.

SRC MCGRATH FOUNDATION THINK PINK

As part of a fundraising drive for the McGrath Foundation, the GHS SRC is holding a 'pink' day on Thursday with students, teachers and staff encouraged to dress up in pink for the day. Hopefully the day proves to be a lot of fun with a number of shocking pink shirts, dresses and other forms of costume being dragged out of the closet for the day. It should also be a very successful fundraiser. With a gold coin donation pink food stall at school on the day, all monies raised will go to the McGrath Foundation for cancer research. Congratulations to all GHS students for a great effort.

NORTH WEST REPRESENTATIVES

Congratulations to Jessica Novley, Chloe Beasley, Gabby O'Gorman and Nikki Bruce on their selection in the North West tennis representative team, as well as Montane Dries and Rhianna Bettridge on gaining selection in the North-West secondary golf girl's team.

GHS KO-OPEN GIRLS FOOTBALL REGIONAL CHAMPIONS

Congratulations to GHS Open Girls' Football (Soccer) team on being crowned North West regional champions. Their road to success was as follows:

- Rd 1: GHS def Moree on forfeit
- Rd2: GHS def Wee Waa HS 4-2
- Rd3: GHS def Quirindi HS 10-0

Details of Final: The GHS team travelled to Tenterfield to play Tenterfield HS in the regional final on Thursday 23rd June 2011. From the opening whistle, the game was extremely competitive with both teams working solidly in defence. Gunnedah's concerted efforts in both attack and defence finally paid off for them when they were awarded a dot shot penalty late in the first half. This was successfully awarded to Emily Gardner of Year 12, to give GHS a 1-0 lead at the half-time break.

When the second half commenced, GHS backs worked extremely hard in defence to protect their 1 goal lead. With frustration starting to show in the Tenterfield side, Gunnedah continued to deny them any chance of levelling the score and, at the final whistle, Gunnedah High School were crowned as the Northwest CHS Regional Champions.

Inter-regional Match Details: The GHS team will now play Jannali HS – regional champions of Sydney East, on Friday 22nd July in Gunnedah.

Teacher/Manager's Comment: The GHS girls have built on their strong 2010 campaign that saw them win a place in the regional final against Duval HS. This year, with

minimal changes to their side and a strong influence from our senior players, they have continued their dominance in the North West region. The girls have all improved on their skill levels from last year as a result of their participation in community soccer teams. This dedication and commitment has gone a long way in strengthening our opportunities in the school based competition. It's fantastic to see our students successfully representing our school in this competitive state wide competition. Thanks go to Hunter Richards of Year 12 who has been assisting in a coaching role.



UNDER 15 BOYS' SOCCER

The GHS Boys 15's soccer team travelled to Armidale last Thursday to play O'Connor High School in the postponed regional final of the Bill Turner Cup Knockout Competition. After an exciting first half that saw the teams go to the break locked together at 1-1, Gunnedah turned in a second half blitz to win the game 4-2 and earn the title as North-West regional champions. Congratulations to all team members, with special mention to goal scorers Kih McDonald (3) and Luke Curgenvin (1), as well as super coach, Mr Will Dowe.

As regional champions, the team travelled to Lismore to play St Trinity College on Wednesday.

NAIDOC WEEK: FESTIVAL OF CHAMPIONS

NAIDOC WEEK will be celebrated at the Gunnedah High School in Term 3 Week 1

The 2011 NAIDOC – Festival of Champions celebrations will be held in the last week of Term 3 (week 1): 18th – 22nd July 2011. This year's events will include:

- Mon 18/7: Billing Boiling
- Tues 19/7: Dance
- Wed 20/7: Spearing
- Thur 21/7: Pole vault
- Fri 22/7: Spider's web

Teams representing years 7 – 12, Teachers and the Community will compete for the prestigious "Festival of Champions" Shield. Teams will consist of four (4) members each

BEAUTY CERTIFICATE#1 STUDENTS



FUNDRAISING RAFFLE: BOE WATTON

1st Prize: Telstra HTC WILDFIRE phone

2nd Prize: ZUMBA Kit

3rd Prize: \$50 Gift Voucher – GHS Coffee Shop

Tickets are only \$2.00 each and are available at recess & lunch near the canteen to students, teachers and GHS staff only. Prize winners will be drawn at the GHS Social on Friday, 22nd July 2011.

The Uniform Shop

Tuesday: 8am-10am

Thursday: 1pm-3pm

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MARY POPPINS

A group of seventy students, teachers, staff and parents from Gunnedah High School travelled to Sydney's Capitol Theatre to see the musical "Mary Poppins" last Saturday. And what an amazing show it was! The characters were larger than life and the sets were simply magical. We couldn't help but smile for the entire show as the singing and dancing carried across the stage, up the walls and even over the audience. Thanks to everyone who made our excursion possible. Stay tuned for info about our next musical excursion (hopefully "Hairspray" in Term 4).



ETHAN STEVENS MEMORIAL SOCIAL

To be held on Friday 22nd July 2011, from 6-9pm, at Gunnedah Services Club Auditorium for students attending Gunnedah High School.

All Tickets \$5.00. The theme is "RETRO" and all monies raised will be put towards a memorial plaque and tree in memory of Ethan.

