GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL SC

GHS STUDENTS MAKE A SPLASH AT CARNIVAL

Gunnedah High School's house teams went head-to-head at a swimming carnival on Friday, February 8, 2019.

Illawarra, Kaputar, Moonbi and Nandewar battled it out in the pool and wore their colours with pride on the land.

Students applied yellow, blue, red and green zinc to their skin and dressed up in wigs, tights, angel wings, onesies and leis to showcase their house colours.

Year 12 brought along inflatable pool toys and raced in the pool, with students vying for the win on donuts, hot dogs, shells and flamingos. There were also belly flop competitions and a continuous relay for house points.

"I think the students who were there had a great day," carnival coordinator Adam Mooney said. "There were plenty of novelty events, as well as the traditional competitive races."

Coby Higgins and Zoe Fleming took out the Fancy Dress prize, and Chloe Waugh and Liam Ireland were the winners of the Belly Flop competition.

Kaputar won the day, followed by Nandewar, Moonbi and Illawarra.

MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 4-5.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Week 4, Term 1, 2019

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21 Girls Academy Induction

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 Peer Support Excursion

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26 P&C Welcome BBQ

SUNDAY, MARCH 24 GHS Golf Day

THURSDAY, APRIL 4 School Photos

FRIDAY, APRIL 5 Good Start Assembly

RESPECT • RESPONSIBILITY • DOING YOUR BEST

PASSOUTS

Students who need to leave school grounds during the day for appointments are required to bring a note to the front office before school to receive a pass-out. This means the student can leave class at the correct time.

Office staff are unable to chase students up if parents show up at the front office.

PAYMENTS

Students needing to make payments are asked to do so before school or during the first break. Parents have until 2pm. Banking is completed at 2pm every day as it is a requirement that no cash is left on school grounds overnight.

BELL TIMES

Warning Bell	8.55	9.00
Roll call	9.00	9.15
Period 1	9.15	10.15
Period 2	10.15	11.15
Break 1	11.15	11.50
Period 3	11.50	12.50
Period 4	12.50	1.50
Break 2	1.50	2.25
Period 5	2.25	3.25

NEWSLETTER

Newsletters are published three times per term. If you'd like to receive a copy please email alyssa.barwick@det. nsw.edu.au or called the Front Office on 6742 0155.

NOR'WESTER

Copies of the 2018 Nor'wester are available from the Front Office for families that didn't



collect one at the end of last year. One copy is available per family, and the eldest child is to collect the magazine.







FIRST DAY OF HIGH SCHOOL

On Wednesday, January 30 more than 80 students began their secondary education in Year 7 at Gunnedah High.

In their few first weeks, the students have been getting used to their new classes, taking on the subjects of language, English, maths, science, technology, geography, art and PDHPE.







McGUIRK'S DOUBLE CENTURY CLINCHES NORTH WEST CHAMPIONS TITLE

On Friday, February 1 the Open Boys cricket team played Farrer, at Farrer in the Davidson Shield North West final.

Farrer won the toss and elected to field first.

Adam McGuirk and Myles Conn opened the batting and Adam immediately went about setting the tone for the day with some well timed shots around the ground. Ash White joined McGuirk after the departure of Conn in the fifth over, and the two established a good partnership until White was run out with the score of 49. Desmond Tuckerman also fell LBW early in the next over and Gunnedah looked like they may struggle to make an innings.

The match could have swayed either way with Gunnedah High in a reasonable position of 4/100 at drinks. Several players chipped in with the bat to support McGuirk who was putting on a batting clinic for the Farrer side, notching up a hundred just after the drinks break. With support from Braithen Winsor and Oliver Thomas, McGuirk hit the 150 mark a little after the 30th over.

With about six overs to spare Gunnedah were down nine wickets when Josh Green arrived at the crease. He batted well to defend the pace attack and managed to hold his wicket, which allowed McGuirk to farm himself the strike and begin to really take apart the Farrer bowlers.

Off the last few overs McGuirk managed to lift the run rate with some beautifully timed lofted drives and pull shots finding



the boundary, allowing him to reach the remarkable score of 205 runs not out for the 40 overs.

With 254 runs on the board Gunnedah looked to be in a good position to slip their underdog tag and be in control of the match, with runs on the board crucial on a slow outfield. Ash White and Oliver Thomas opened the attack and applied pressure straight away to the Farrer openers with some great line and length bowling.

There were plenty of chances given in the field in the first 20 overs until drinks, but Gunnedah failed to capitalise and Farrer plodded to 1/93 at the break. Tight bowling from White, McGuirk and Hudson Dries kept the run rate low but with wickets in hand the match was anyones.

A few quick wickets after drinks to McGuirk, Tuckerman and Dawson Fordham put Gunnedah back in the box sea. Further tight bowling from White pushed the required rate to 10 an over for the final 10 overs. A late wicket to White, bowling N. Pitt for 69 seemed to put the match beyond doubt and Farrer could only make it to 212 off their 40 overs.

It was an obvious selection for Man of the Match. After a superb effort from Captain Adam McGuirk to build the Gunnedah innings and then lead from the front with his bowling and sharp fielding to secure the match for Gunnedah. He finished with figures of 2/22 off eight overs after his innings of 205 not out.

Adam's performance was perhaps brought on by the confidence of just being selected the evening before for the NSW CHS First XI team, which will tour the UK this year. Congratulations to Adam on his exceptional achievement.

Gunnedah High will now play Maclean High School at Kitchener Park on Thursday, February 21.



SWIMMING CARNIVAL 2019





















ILLAWARRA KAPUTAR MOONBI 1st 501 NANDEWAR 3rd 4th 325 2nd 414 475 annan Canana Cananan Canana Can 10100 a *******

5

1 (2413)



Haylee Murrell, Jessica Moore, Jaxon Holbrook, Kyra Carlyon and Casey Egan. Absent: Brianna Hagan.

GHS ALUMNI RECEIVE GUNNEDAH COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Twenty-four local young people in Gunnedah looking to pursue tertiary studies have received a helping hand from the Gunnedah Community Scholarship Fund.

More than \$30,000 was distributed to the successful recipients at a ceremony at The Civic on Thursday, January 31.

Gunnedah Shire Councillor Ann Luke said the Fund is designed to ease financial pressures on students and their families for the future benefit of rural communities.

"We are proud to be able to support our local students in taking their first steps towards the next stage of their lives."

The successful recipients from Gunnedah High are;

- Jaxon Holbrook Bachelor of Business/ Bachelor of Commerce
- Casey Egan Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Primary/Early Childhood)
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Kyra Carlyon Bachelor of Business
- Brianna Hagan Bachelor of Secondary Teaching (Health and Physical Education)
- Haylee Murrell Bachelor Rural Science
- Jessica Moore Bachelor of Communication



GHS Captains Ashleigh Mills and Desmond Tuckerman emceed the event alongside the St Mary's College captains. Ashleigh and Desmond are pictured with guest speaker Isaac Jeffery and GHS Principal, Mr Ken White.

GHS students recognised at Australia Day awards



Junior Male Sportsperson of the Year Award: Adam McGuirk.

Gunnedah celebrated sporting, cultural and community achievements at the annual Australia Day Awards on Friday, January 25.

2018 graduate, Haylee Murrell was named as the Young Citizen of the Year. She was a senior council member for the last two years and vice-captain in 2018. Haylee has also won countless academic awards and commendations over the last few years.

Haylee is the current Gunnedah Showgirl and the youngest winner in history.

Cricket stars Zoe Fleming and Adam McGuirk were recognised for their outstanding achievements at the annual awards.

Year 11 student Adam McGuirk was named the Junior Male Sportsperson of the Year for the second year in a row.

McGuirk's achievements for 2018



Young Citizen of the Year Award: Haylee Murrell.



include debuting for the Northern Inland Bolters and representing Central North at both the Bradman Cup (under-16s) and NSW Country Colts Championships.

A key member of the local senior representative sides, he also captained the North West CHS team.

Zoe Fleming's achievements across a range of sports saw her named the Junior Female Sportsperson of the Year.

It is the second time Fleming has been nominated for the award and she said it was a huge honour to win it.



Junior Female Sportsperson of the Year Award: Zoe Fleming. Photos: Hayley Hausfeld

"It was pretty exciting," she said. The Year 11 student, who was also named Gunnedah High School's Sportsperson of the Year for 2018, excelled in multiple sports including cricket, league tag, rugby league, touch football and oztag.

It was on the cricket field where she made her biggest mark, and enjoyed one of her greatest sporting thrills.

When asked what her highlight for the year was, Fleming had no hesitation.

"Touring England with the Indigenous Australian side," she replied.

The tour commemorated the 150th anniversary of the first Australian cricket team to tour overseas, with the side following in the footsteps of the 1868 Aboriginal team that travelled to the UK.

An unforgettable experience, it was just one on a long list of accomplishments.

ALL WELCOME

Come along for a steak sandwich, drink and the chance to meet other parents/carers of GHS students.

After the BBQ we'll hold our P&C meeting. It's a relaxed meeting where everyone can chat about school issues.



From 6pm - meet near the GHS Admin Block





School Community **Charter**

Sollaborative. Respectful. Communication.

The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

What our schools provide

NSW public schools work to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

The best education happens when parents and schools work together.

The School Community Charter aligns with the NSW Department of Education Strategic Plan 2018 - 2022.



Positive environments

It is important that our NSW public schools are positive environments and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

Parents and carers can expect:

- To be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- Communication from school staff will be timely, polite and informative.
- Professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- To be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

with respect

We treat

each other

We prioritise the wellbeing of all students and staff

> Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our schools

We work **together** with the school

Ensuring respectful learning environments for all members of NSW Public Schools communities.

We create **collaborative** learning environments

We all play **our part** We work in partnership to promote student learning

Communicating with our schools

Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

Our schools and communities will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with your school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events in the school community.

Our guide for parents, carers and students provides useful information about the complaints process:

education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-complimentsand-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students

Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our schools, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school community or, in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.

Unacceptable behaviour may include but is not limited to:

- · Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication.



School Community Charter



CONNECTING TO COUNTRY



Staff from nine schools in the Gunnedah shire area got back to Australia's roots after attending the first day of the Connecting to Country program on Tuesday, January 29. They learnt about local Gamilaraay Aboriginal culture, history and social experience.

The program is designed by the state Aboriginal Educational Consultancy Group (AECG) and is run by the local Gunnedah group.

AECG Gunnedah committee president Meleah Walters said about 190 teachers, student learning support officers, and office staff from the Gunnedah shire attended the first day of the program.

"For their staff development day, they visited three sites which are significant to Aboriginal people," Mrs Walters said.

"The program is designed to give people more awareness, so they're able to communicate more effectively with Aboriginal people that they're giving all students the opportunity to learn about Gamilaraay customs."

The first site they visited was Mullibah Lagoon, where they learnt traditional weaving and listened to stories told by the Yinarr Maramali peoples.

Mrs Walters said the next stop was Wallaby Trap, where they were met by local Aboriginal people from the community, including Wayne Griffith and James Hogbin from the Winanga-Li Child Care Centre.

"They spoke about the importance of community and coming together, and making sure that Aboriginal culture and history was taught to everyone," she said.

The final site was Pensioners Hill, where staff painted their journey and stories of the day on puzzle pieces.

"Each staff member had a puzzle piece, and each school had a puzzle so it could



be displayed in their school," Mrs Walters said.

The staff will attend two more sessions in the next two months to finish the course.

"They will then be equipped with some background knowledge of the local area so they can share stories with kids," Ms Walters said.

"They will also have links to community members so they can help out too."

The full list of schools in attendance are as follows:

Boggabri Public School Carroll Public School Curlewis Public School GS Kidd Memorial School Gunnedah High School Gunnedah Public School Gunnedah South Public School Mullaley Public School Tambar Springs Public School

Gunnedah AECG encourages Aboriginal community members to attend meetings every school term in week two, on Thursday afternoons at 4pm.





















NEW STAFF 2019



GHS has welcomed a number of new teachers and support staff. Some of the new staff are, from left, Michelle Hobden, Leanne Ellis, Kara Simpson, William Filson, Elichia Sutton and Brooke Cowan.

What chance does your child have of being successful? 1 or 2 days each week doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just	That equals	Which is	And over 13 years of schooling,	Which means the best your child can perform is
1 day each fortnight	20 days per year	4 weeks per year	Nearly 1.5 years	Your child Other children
1 day each week	40 days per year	8 weeks per year	Over 2.5 years	Your child Equal to finishing Year 10
2 days each week	80 days per year	16 weeks per year	Over 5 years	Your child Other children Equal to finishing Year 7
3 days each week	120 days per year	24 weeks per year	Nearly 8 years	Your child Control Con

At Gunnedah High School, every day counts!





PRINCIPAL Ken White

DEPUTY PRINCIPALS Karen Kruse Chris Metcalfe

ENGLISH Belinda Foran (HT) Bec Mizzi Gai Schubert Jackie Sheridan Trista Smith Jenny Sullivan

MATHEMATICS Jacinta Hohnke (HT) Jan Barnett Priya Chandrasena Kara Simpson Anne Torrens

SCIENCE Nicole Dwyer (HT) Natasha Constable Brooke Cowan Emojong Mamai Sam Proudfoot Shelley Small **Elichia Sutton**

PDHPE Adam Mooney (HT) Simone Brady **Bob Heath** Oscar Hunt Ashleigh Hobart Rhiannon Ludlow

HSIE Simone Carlyon (HT) Angell Harris Sue Hutchens Lea Thomas

TAS Lea-ann Best (HT) Tarra Doolan William Filson Andrew Gough

CAPA Sumien Bester Patricio Herrera Louise Hill

SPECIAL ED **Beck Henderson** Narelle Hertslet Sarah Stewart

TUTORIAL CENTRE Ingrid Wheeler

CAREERS ADVISOR Leanne Ellis

AEO Sommar Conlan

GIRLS ACADEMY Blanche Biles Kylie Mllsom

COUNSELLOR David Lawrence (M/W/F) **Christie Burgess (Thurs)**

ADMINISTRATION MANAGER Wendy Jones

SENIOR EXECUTIVE



PRINCIPAL

Mr Ken White



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL Mrs Karen Kruse Years 7/9/11

HEAD TEACHERS



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL Mr Chris Metcalfe Years 8/10/12

ENGLISH Mrs Belinda Foran



PDHPE Mr Adam Mooney



MATHS/CAPA

Mrs Jacinta Hohnke





TAS Mrs Lea-ann Best



ATTENDANCE Miss Shelley Small

YEAR ADVISORS

YEAR 7

(Science)

Miss Tash Constable

The relieving Year 8 advisor will be announced in the coming weeks.

YEAR 8



YEAR 9 Mrs Angell Harris (HSIE)



SPECIAL ED

Mrs Beck Henderson

YEAR 10 **Miss Shelley Small** (Science)



YEAR 11 Mrs Nicole Dwyer (Science/Ag)



YEAR 12 Mrs Beck Henderson (Special Ed)



HSIE / TEACHING & LEARNING Mrs Simone Carlyon



INSTRUCTIONAL

Mrs Christine Patison

LEADER



Country star Katrina Burgoyne drops in

Former student Katrina Burgoyne stopped by Gunnedah High at the end of 2018 to chat about her journey since leaving school and how studying music in high school helped guide her.

Students were thrilled to listen to Katrina's beautiful voice and listened attentively to her speak.

Katrina is now one of Nashville's exciting up and coming singer songwriters.

Nominated twice for a Golden Guitar, Katrina Burgoyne's impressive career in the Australian music industry includes a top 10 Australian Country Music ARIA charting album and the Australian Country Music People's Choice award.









Could \$500 help you with school costs?

Join Saver Plus and we'll match your savings, dollar for dollar, up to \$500 for school costs.

laptops & tablets lessons & activities uniforms & shoes books & supplies sports fees & gear Comps & excursions

To join Saver Plus, you must have a Centrelink Health Care or Pensioner Concession Card, be at least 18 years old, have some regular income from work (you or your partner), and have a child at school or attend vocational education yourself.

benevolent saver

Contact Anne Yates your local Saver Plus

Coordinator

1300 610 355

.saverplus.org.au

evolent.org.au

Ph 0431 651 571

Email

Web



WANT TO HELP the mental health of your community?

Attend a 12-hour Standard Mental Health First Aid (SMHFA) Course

This course teaches first aid skills for adult members of the public to give initial help to adults experiencing mental health problems, in a mental health crisis situation or in the early stages of a mental illness.

Where: Gunnedah Community College - 39 Chandos Street, Gunnedah

When: Wednesday & Thursday 20-21 February 2019 (2 day course)

Instructor(s): Kate Arndell

Cost: \$50* free for eligible drought affected farmers and small business owners If you're interested in attending this 12-hour SMHFA course, please contact:

Contact name: Lena Curran (Community College) Phone: 02 67425630

Email: gunnedah@communitycollegeni.nsw.edu.au

Additional information: Participants are required to attend both days of this course in order to receive accreditation. Day I of the course will start at 9am and finish between 3.30/4pm Tea/coffee facilities are available. Lunch is not provided

> For further information about Mental Health First Aid Australia please visit our website at: /ww.mhfa.com.au

www.mhfa.com.au DEPRESSION • ANXIETY PROBLEMS • PSYCHOSIS • SUBSTANCE USE PROBLEMS • THOUGHTS & BEHAVIOURS • NON-SUICIDAL SELF-INJURY • PANIC ATTACKS • AGGRESSION

8



WELCOMING NEW BEGINNINGS

Gunnedah High School officially opened the 2019 school year with a traditional smoking ceremony conducted by Mr Len Waters.

The ceremony is to welcome new beginnings and pay respects to our elders past and present.

Our focus this year is Aboriginal Education. Mr Waters shared some local stories and the significance of some local landmarks.

Some Elders within the community joined us and staff and students took part in the ceremony.





CREATIVE KIDS NOW JOINS ACTIVE KIDS

Active Kids and Creative Kids are programs designed to encourage more children to participate in sport, active recreation and creative and cultural activities.

Each year, parents, guardians and carers can receive a \$100 voucher to go towards both creative and physical activities for school



aged children. That's \$200 worth of savings per year for each child.

A Creative Kids voucher will help parents to cover some of the registration, participation and tuition costs on activities such as singing, drama, coding, languages, music, writing, drawing and photography.

The Active Kids voucher can be used on sports, fitness and physical activities for registration, participation and membership costs.

The vouchers can be used once with an approved provider. To find out more, parents need to visit service. nsw.gov.au.

SAVER PLUS PROGRAM

The Saver Plus program helps families to establish a long term savings habit, build their money management skills and knowledge while saving for education costs.

A participant may receive the once off incentive of up to \$500 for their school aged children's education e.g. textbooks, uniforms, stationary, tutoring, school excursions, shoes etc.

A saver plus participant selects education-related items they wish to save for (thinking ahead to what's coming up in 10 months' time) and agree to a saving goal over a period of 10 months, from as little as \$12.50 per week to achieve a goal of \$500 saved and received matched funds of \$500 (the regular saving goal can be lesser amount) If they make a regular and consistent deposits and complete two hours of Money Minded Online workshops, every dollar they save will be matched with an equivalent dollar, up to a total of \$500

Matched funds are used to buy the education-related product or service for the participant's personal or children's educational expenses.

Central North Rugby Trials Donnelly Fields, Gunnedah 24th Feb & 3rd March

Under 12s Boys 15s Boys & Girls 17s Boys & Girls



Nomination & medical forms MUST be submitted before 19th Feb For more info email: sarah.hickey4@det.nsw.edu.au



Gunnedah Junior Rugby League

Registration Day

2nd March 2019, 9am -12pm

At Gunnedah Services and Bowling Club BBQ area

https://playnrl.com/

WANTED

Coaches, league safe and first aid officers Please apply to gunnedahjrl@gmail.com

GHS CANTEEN: AN IMPORTANT PART OF OUR SCHOOL

We feel it is important that students, parents, carers and the community are aware of the canteen prices and the food on offer at Gunnedah High in order to provide transparency and information about how we operate the school canteen.

As a NSW Department of Education School we are bound by the the 'Healthy Schools Canteen Strategy' policies. As such, this determines the range of food and drinks that we can provide to students at school.

In regards to pricing, as with any retail outlet, products are sold at a rate higher than the distributor cost price. In most cases at Gunnedah High School, these products are sold below, or at recommended retail price in order to keep these items as affordable as possible for the school community.

The school canteen is also a business and as such, must generate a profit to be sustainable. All profit that is made in the canteen, is put directly back into the school via our P&C committee. This funding directly benefits the students through events such as rewards days, the Year 12 Formal, new school equipment and sports clothing.

We are very proud to have such a fantastic canteen running on the premises and we believe that our prices are not only competitive, but some of the lowest in the region.

We welcome constructive and respectful feedback as we are always trying to provide the best options for our students and staff. if you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the school directly on 67420155.

More information regarding the 'Healthy Schools Canteen Strategy' can be found on the following website https://healthyschoolcanteens. nsw.gov.au/

We thank you for your continued support of our school canteen!

SCHOOL CANTEEN

SANDWICHES

Salad sandwich	\$4.00
Salad roll	\$4.20
Salad wrap	\$4.00
Ham, cheese, tomato	\$3.20
Ham, cheese, tomato, onion	\$3.20
Chicken, cheese	\$3.20
Chicken, lettuce	\$3.20
Chicken, cheese, avocado	\$3.20
Egg, lettuce	\$3.20
Curried egg	\$3.20
Corned meat, cheese, pickle	\$3.20

HOT FOOD

Chicken & gravy roll	\$4.20
Beef & gravy roll	\$4.20
Chicken burger	\$4.00
Chilli chicken wrap	\$4.00
Lasagne	\$3.60
Spaghetti bolognaise	\$3.60
Noodle cups	\$2.60
Pizza Singles	\$3.00
Pies (all)	\$3.80
Sausage Roll	\$3.20
Turkish Roll	\$4.00
Fried Rice (Winter only)	\$3.50

COLD FOOD

Fruit Salad (Summer only)	\$3.50
Prawn pasta (Summer only)	\$3.50
Meat and salad container	\$6.50

DRINKS

Water	\$2.20
99% Fruit juice	\$3.20
Slushie	sm \$2.00
	lg \$3.00
Plain milk	\$2.20
Flavoured milk	\$4.00
Chill J	\$2.30

CHIPS

Red Rock Deli	\$1.20
Snaps	\$1.20

ICY POLES

Scoobys	\$1.80
Mony	.90C

EXTRAS

Yoghurt	\$2.80
Sauce	.20C

GUNNEDAH SHIRE'S SCHOOLS BOOSTED BY FUNDRAISER



GHS Principal Ken White receives the drought funds from Hanna Lichti on behalf of Namoi Partner Schools.

GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL GOLF DAY SUNDAY, MARCH 24

FOUR PERSON AMBROSE / FOUR BALL BEST BALL COMPETITION

\$25 ADULTS, \$16.50 JUNIORS – INCLUDES GREEN FEES AND BARBECUE LUNCH

10.30AM FOR AN 11AM SHOTGUN START

GREAT PRIZES, AUCTION ITEMS AND RAFFLES ON OFFER

COFFEE VAN ON-SITE

\$150 per hole – contact Adam Mooney 6742 0155

TO BOOK CONTACT LUKE AT THE PRO SHOP ON 6742 1751

More than \$2500 from Gunnedah's sister city Lane Cove will help local students get ahead.

The funds were raised by Lane Cove Youth Orchestra (LCYO) and Hunter Hills High School in December through the Red Earth Christmas Concert and gifted to Namoi Partner Schools.

Namoi Partner Schools consists of

- Gunnedah South Public School
- Gunnedah Public School
- Carroll Public School
- Boggabri Public School
- Mullaley Public School
- GS Kidd Memorial School
- Tambar Springs Public School
- Curlewis Public School and
- Gunnedah High School.

Namoi Partner Schools' Ken White said the funds would be a great help for families affected by the drought, which "have not got the finances or time to participate in the support of student programs".

"The funds raised will also assist with the well-being support for students who are expected to work more to support farm activities and also be engaged in their learning at school," he said.

Namoi Partner Schools chair Ben Carter said a new trial initiative was a combined sports program starting March 1.

"We were trying to work out a way to get the smaller schools involved and help kids make friends outside of their school groups."

Mr Carter said each Friday 500 students from Years 3-6 at Carroll Public School, Mullaley Public School, Gunnedah South Public School and Gunnedah Public School would come together to participate in nominated sports including tag and touch football, cricket, gymnastics, dance, table tennis and archery.

Infants will also combine for "activities on fundamental movement and acquiring various skills through game play".

"We were trying to work out a way to get the smaller schools involved and help kids make friends outside of their school groups and we wanted to promote local sport venues to encourage weekend participation," Mr Carter said.

"We're aiming at getting some of the high school students to come and coach during these sessions, so we're building towards that."

Funding will also be used for professional development, Education Week Awards and cultural activities such as Connecting to Country.

www.nvi.com.au



	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
week 4	18/2	19/2 DRUM BEAT (EVERY WEEK)	20/2	21/2	22/2
5	25/2	26/2 PEER SUPPORT EXCURSION P&C WELCOME BBQ - 6PM	27/2	28/2	1/3 DEFENCE FORCE VISIT CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY
6	4/3	5/3 TAMWORTH HEALTH EXPO VACCINATIONS YEAR 7/10	6/3	7/3 SHARING CULTURE PERFORMANCE YEARS 7/8 CHALLENGE SWIM CARNIVAL	8/3
7	11/3	12/3	13/3	14/3	15/3
8	18/3	19/3	20/3 ZONE TRIALS	21/3	22/3
9	25/3	26/3	27/3	28/3	29/3
10	1/4	2/4	3/4 N/W WINTER TRIALS	4/4 School photos	5/4 GOOD START ASSEMBLY
11	8/4	9/4 PARENT/TEACHER EVENING YEARS 7, 11, 12	10/4 AG - EASTER SHOW	11/4 REWARDS DAY	12/4 ANZAC DAY CEREMONY

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS - SATURDAY, APRIL 13 TO MONDAY, APRIL 29

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Welcome to the new year. By now we have our class rolls settled and most of our staffing sorted.

As a whole school staff we participated in the "Connecting to Country" staff development day, and in addition to other after school training evenings, our school staff has been learning about significant aboriginal sites and also important aspects of cultural significance for us to incorporate into our classrooms. This and other professional learning opportunities available to staff give us skills to improve our teaching of all students at the school.

STAFFING CHANGES

As most of you would know by now, Mrs McInerney is working at Tamworth South Public School for this year and so Mrs Kruse is relieving Deputy for Term 1. We will be advertising for a new permanent Deputy in a couple of weeks and they will hopefully start Term 2. Mr Chris Metcalfe has joined us from Grafton High to be in the other Deputy chair for the year.

At the end of Term 4 last year Ms Carlyon was successful in gaining our Head Teacher Teaching and Learning position and we welcome her to our Executive team. Mrs Patison has taken up our temporary Head Teacher Instructional Leadership (Literacy/Numeracy) role and will be working with students, staff and parents/carers to help with our literacy and numeracy strategies across the school. One of her first jobs has been to organise for our Year 7 Best Start testing program. Mrs Brown picked up the District Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) position and so Miss Small will take over as Head Teacher Attendance. Mrs Hohnke is relieving as Head Teacher Maths while Mr Ireland is overseas. As mentioned at the end of last year. Ms Best took over as Head Teacher TAS from Mrs Johnston.

Other new staff to the school are: Mrs Ellis - Careers Adviser Ms Simpson - Maths Ms Barnett - Maths Mr P Chandrasena (Mr C) -Maths Ms Sutton -Science Mr Filson - TAS



SWIMMING CARNIVAL

I was greatly impressed with our recent swimming carnival. Mr Mooney and his team organised a magnificent event, and the weather was fantastic. The overwhelming majority of the students that attended participated with a sense of sportpersonship yet also managed to have fun on the day. With such a great swimming complex in our town, we are very fortunate and it was a much appreciated day in amongst the many hot days we have has so far this year.

CRICKET

It was great to see our open boys cricket team successful in overcoming Farrer to become Davidson Shield North West winners. Our next game is against Maclean at home and we wish them well. It was also excellent to news to hear that Adam McGuirk has been selected to tour the UK later in the year as part of the NSW CHS First XI.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY CHARTER

Collaborative. Respectful. Communication. At the end of last year the NSW Department of Education and Training released a set of guidelines for the way our school and its community work together to support our student learning environment.

The charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW ensure that our learning environment s are collaborative, supportive and cohesive. This means :

- We treat each other with respect
- We prioritise the wellbeing of all students and staff
- Unsafe behaviour is not acceptable in our schools

- We work together
- We create collaborative learning environments
- We all play our part
- We work in partnership to promote student learning

Over the next few Newsletters I will expand on what these statements mean for us as a school staff, and also our community of parents, carers and support agencies.

P&C WELCOME BBQ

Our first P&C meeting for the year is coming up on 26th Feb and we are having a Welcome BBQ before the meeting. Our P&C group does a lot for our school from fundraising, providing information and advice to parents and school leadership, advocating for our school with various government agencies, runs the canteen, and also participates in staff merit selection interviews. Just because your student is now at High School doesn't mean that you can't still be part of helping your child through involvement with the P&C.

GOLF DAY

Our upcoming P&C and school golf day fundraiserw is scheduled for Sunday, March 24. Last year was very successful and I have managed to locate my very neglected golf set and am looking forward to meeting many of you on the course this year.

FEEDBACK WELCOME

Finally, as I said last year, please let me know if there are things that you feel that we can do better here at the school or if there are student achievements that I may have missed. Many times I can resolve matters if I know what they are and it is in my power to do so. Give me call on 6742 0155 or contact me on email at kenneth.j.white@det.nsw.edu.au



Relieving Principal