



Tuesday, 1 November 2011

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Principal: Jennifer Miggins

DATES FROM THE CALENDAR:

Term 4

Week 5

- ✓ **Monday 7th November to Wednesday 9th November**
School Certificate Exams
- ✓ **Friday 11th November**
Remembrance Day

Future Important Dates

- ✓ **Monday 14th November**
Year 12 Dinner - 6pm in the Services Club function room
- ✓ **Monday 21st November**
P&C Meeting at 7pm
- ✓ **Thursday 1st December**
Year 6 Parent Information Evening at 6pm
- ✓ **Monday 5th December**
Year 6 Orientation Day
- ✓ **Friday 9th December**
Presentation Day commencing at 2pm in the MPC
- ✓ **Friday 16th December**
Last day of school for students

Gundagai High School

NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

WEDNESDAY 2ND NOVEMBER STOP WORK MEETING

Please see page 4 for information

YEAR 12 FAREWELL DINNER

The Year 12 formal dinner at the Gundagai Serviceman's Club will be on Monday 14th November, 2011, 6pm. RSVP and payment by Tuesday 1st November.

CONGRATULATIONS

- To the Melbourne Show Team well done on your very high achievements again. Thank you Ms Thake who attended this year.
- To the Rural Fire Service Cadets who again achieved at a very high standard at the State Championships.

A **HUGE BIG THANK YOU** to Mr Chadwick for his time and effort in his organisation and participation in support of our students.

P&C STREET STALL

The street stall was held on 27, 28 and 29th October. This fundraising effort was again a great success thanks to the time and effort of the wonderful P&C members. WELL DONE!

Results are as follows:

1. \$200 – Shannon Bartlett
2. Snake Gully – Helen King
3. Mega Hamper – N Lovelock
4. Cleaning Hamper – Freda Nicholls
5. Party Hamper – Judy Bell
6. Variety Hamper – John Moss

7. \$100 Club – Yolande Bowditch
8. \$100 Club – Ian Harpley
9. \$100 Club – Annie Green



UNIFORM REMINDER

The phase-in period of the Gundagai High School's new uniform will be complete at end of 2011. Therefore it is expected that ALL students will be in the new uniform at the beginning of 2012. **This includes BLACK, LEATHER covered shoes.** If uniform items still need to be purchased please contact the school as a matter of urgency to ensure your order is filled by the beginning of 2012.

LUNCHTIME PASSES

Students at Gundagai High School are not given blanket lunch passes by the school. If a child does misbehave while they are out of school, then there will be consequences from the school. If your child has an appointment to attend then a note from parents will allow a child to be given a pass to leave the school at any time – although this does count against their attendance record.

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

Invoices for financial contributions to the school for voluntary school contributions and the participation of students in elective subjects will be in letterboxes shortly. It would be appreciated if these were finalised as soon as possible please.

PRIORITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Gundagai High School is going to complete a survey of its parents in order to establish if we qualify to be part of this particular program. If successful the program will bring resources that will enable the school to develop and expand many programs that support the learning of students at Gundagai High School. There will be more information coming on where and when the surveys will be completed, although it will take place in Term 1 2012.

Jennifer Miggins
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

LOCAL SCHOOLS, LOCAL DECISIONS

You have until Friday 18 November to contribute to the online forum of the NSW government's 'local schools local decisions' planning process.

The NSW Government wants to hear from people about giving schools greater control over decision-making in order to improve teaching and learning, and achieve the best outcomes for students.

Everyone with an interest in public education is invited to contribute ideas on five areas of reform:

- making decisions
- managing resources
- staff in our schools
- working locally
- reducing red tape.

To have your say go to the online forum at: <http://haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/localschools>

WORLD DIABETES DAY – NOVEMBER 14

The day aims to raise awareness of the disease and ways to prevent lifestyle-induced (Type 2) diabetes, which is increasing in our society.

Adopting a healthy diet, high in protein and low in sugar and simple carbohydrates, and incorporating regular exercise, is a good start.

For more information on preventing and living with diabetes, including help in different languages, go to the Australian Diabetes Council website: www.diabetesnsw.com.au/

Simon Bridgeman, DP

ENGLISH/HSIE NEWS

Years 7 and 8 are currently working on their unit of learning titled “Myths and Legends”. Students are learning about some of the classic Greek Legends such as Hercules and Achilles. Students are also learning about other ancient cultures as well.

To add to their knowledge of what they are currently doing in English and their work in History earlier in the year, students will have the opportunity to attend the Tutankhamun exhibition at the Melbourne Museum. **This excursion will take place on the 24th and 25th of November.** Students will also visit the Melbourne Art Gallery to expand upon some of the work they have been doing with Mr Rake. More information will be sent home with students in the next few days.

SCIENCE NEWS

Year 8 Science classes had an excursion to the Riverina Environmental Education Centre in Wagga last Friday to look at the Australian woodlands ecosystem and observe how they function. Year 8 has been studying interactions between biotic and abiotic features of the ecosystem in Science this term. This excursion was a valuable trip for the students given it has a hands on focus with students conducting many field tests, such as soil testing and transects. They also participated in team building activities that were both entertaining and challenging which is just like Science. Thanks to Mrs Smallwood for the excursion organisation and the students for their excellent behaviour throughout the day. Paul and Keith from REEC asked me to thank the students personally as they were very impressed with the student’s involvement and behaviour.

Rodney Crane
HSIE/Science Teacher.



CRICKET NEWS

The senior boys cricket team played Young High School last Thursday on Owen Vincent Oval. Unfortunately, our team did not perform to their best and lost the game. Struggling against a very quick and accurate bowling attack, the team was bowled out for 47 with Jake Russel top scoring with 14. Young passed our score with loss of 2 wickets and played the game with good sportsmanship during the day. We played a 10 by 10 over match as a consolation for the players that did not get a chance to play in the main game. Thanks to the students that played in the games over last summer and this term. We hope to compete again next year and repeat our successes.

The girls' team will play Wagga High this Thursday at Gundagai and are very keen. We hope to get a win in this match, so good luck girls!

Mr R Crane
Cricket/Sport Coordinator

Gundagai High School

Notice to Parents – 28/10/2011



PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING VARIATION TO SCHOOL ROUTINE

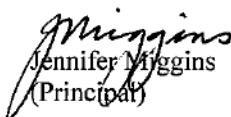
Two Hour Stop Work Industrial Action – Wednesday November 2

The NSW Teachers' Federation has called a two hour stop work meeting for *Wednesday November 2, 2011*. The stop work is timed to occur from 9.00 am – 11.00 am.

I anticipate that a significant percentage of the staff will be supporting this action relating to award negotiations between the NSW Teachers' Federation and the NSW Government.

This will have a considerable impact on the operational capacity of the school prior to the commencement of classes at 11.10 am when Period 3 will begin.

In the best interests of our students, parents are asked to consider this information when making arrangements for their students for Wednesday November 2. We apologise for any inconvenience caused by this variation to school routine.


Jennifer Miggins
(Principal)

Gundagai Swimming Club

Gundagai Swimming Club is to go ahead for the 2011-2012 season. New committee, new ideas, new swim night. 1st swim club and registration night will be Thursday 17th November at 5pm with a Give-it-a go night for young, returning and beginning swimmers starting with 25 metre swims.

Swimming squad training will be Mondays each week with optional stroke correction workshops. Come along and give it a go.

Next meeting Tuesday 15th November 7.30 at the Gundagai District Services Club. All welcome.



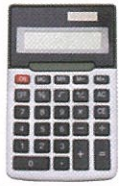
Australian Government

Winter
Uniforms



Education Tax Refund

Update



Associated Learning
Materials



Computer Repairs



Stationery



Exercise
Books

School uniforms

The Government is changing the Education Tax Refund (ETR) so that people can claim their kid's school uniforms. This means people will be able to claim school-approved uniform items from 1 July 2012.

What do I need to do and when?

From 1 July 2011 start keeping receipts for school uniform items so you can claim them next year.

What school uniform items will I be eligible to claim?

Items need to be distinctive and recognised by the school — but are not limited to items bearing a school crest. For example:

1. A public school has a policy which states that students should wear yellow shirts, blue hats, grey shorts or skirts and black leather shoes to identify the students as attending the school. However, while wearing these colours is strongly encouraged, it is not compulsory. An eligible individual whose child attends the school buys items which fit within this policy from a store unaffiliated with the school. None of the clothing items contain the name of the school or school crest. As the items, including shoes, are approved or recognised as part of a distinctive school outfit and fall under the policy, they would be eligible expenses. This applies irrespective of where the clothing was purchased or the fact the uniform was not mandatory.
2. A school has a dress code where students are required to be dressed in a neat and presentable fashion, but which does not indicate a more specific colour or style that the clothing should take. An eligible individual whose child attends the school buys clothes which they intend to wear to school. The items would not be eligible expenses. While the clothing meets the school's dress code, they lack the sufficiently distinctive quality of a uniform, and could not identify the child as a student at the school.



School
Shirts



School Shoes

Summer
Uniforms



Sports
Uniforms

Education Tax Refund
Claim everything you are entitled to



For more information and an electronic copy of this fact sheet visit

www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au



Text Books



Stationery



Printer Cartridges



Educational Software

Laptop Computers

About the Education Tax Refund

Who is eligible?

- A person who has received Family Tax Benefit (FTB) Part A for a child undertaking primary or secondary school studies.
- Independent students in primary or secondary school.
- People on other allowances may be eligible too.

How much can be claimed?

Those eligible can claim 50% of eligible education expenses up to the maximum amounts.

For the 2010–11 financial year the maximum amounts that can be claimed are:

- \$794 for each primary school child — that is, a **refund** of up to \$397, and
- \$1,588 for each secondary school child — that is a **refund** of up to \$794.

What can be claimed in 2010-11?

Eligible expenses include the cost of buying, establishing, repairing and maintaining any of the following items:

- home computers and laptops
- computer-related equipment such as printers, USB flash drives, and disability aids to assist in the use of computer equipment for students with special needs
- computer repairs
- home internet connections
- computer software for educational use
- school textbooks and other printed learning material, including prescribed textbooks, associated learning materials, study guides and stationery, and
- prescribed trade tools for secondary school trade courses.

How do people claim?

- The ETR is claimed in an individual's tax return, or
- For those who don't lodge a tax return, it is claimed on the *Education Tax Refund for individuals claim* form, available from the Tax Office.

For more information go to www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au.