



**Wednesday, 30 November
2011**

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Principal: Jennifer Miggins

Term Dates

Term 4 ☞ 10th Oct – 16th Dec.

DATES FROM THE CALENDAR:

Term 4

- ✓ **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 all students

Term 1 - 2012

Friday 27th January 2012 –

- **Staff only** return

Monday 30th January 2012 –

- **Years 7, 11 & 12** return
to school

Tuesday 31st January 2012 –

- **Years 8, 9 & 10** return
to school

Gundagai High School

NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Year 6 Parent Orientation Evening

This information evening will take place on Thursday 1st December and is an opportunity to welcome the new parents and give them valuable information about Gundagai High School and how to prepare themselves and their child for coming into high school in 2012.

Parents and student will be able to view the new High School Uniform, try on samples and order on the night ready for 2012.

Year 6 Orientation Day

This is on Monday 5th December. We welcome all those new students to Gundagai High School and look forward to their positive participation in our school community.

Welfare Assembly

Last Friday was the last Welfare assembly for the year. This assembly acknowledges those students who have focused on being positive school community members and in recognition of this go up in our level reward scheme. These students had the opportunity to have their parents join them at the staff morning tea and then see them receive their Level Certificate. These assemblies occur once a term and will continue into 2012.

Congratulations to James Murray who achieved Level 2 and was recognised at this assembly. Congratulations to those other students who also received awards.

Student Reports

Years 7-10 will receive their end of year School Reports in the last week of school.

Awards Ceremony 2011 Friday 9th December

This is another opportunity to recognise those students who have been focused on their learning and made outstanding achievements throughout the year. The ceremony starts at 2.00pm but please be seated in the MPC by 1.50pm. All are welcome.



Year 10 2011

Year 10 will be returning their textbooks, library books and other borrowed items on Friday 9th December, 2011 (the morning of Award Ceremony). Students are to see each of their teachers to sign that they are cleared from each subject for the year. Year 10 students will attend the Award Ceremony in full school uniform to receive their Portfolios with their School Certificates. The outline of the day for Year 10 is below:

Year 10 - Friday 9th December, 2011

9.30am – 11.00am Return of Textbooks and Clearance Sheet signed

Collect Clearance Sheet from Office

11.30am – 1.00pm Awards Rehearsal


1.50pm - seated for Awards Ceremony

2.00pm - Awards Ceremony

CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 10

ON ACHIEVING YOUR

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE



Year 10 students' official last day is the same as the rest of the school students Friday 16th December.

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.

Riverina Highlands Learning Community (RHLC)

On Friday 2nd December there will be an Orientation Day for all our 2012 Year 11 students who will be studying a subject as part of the RHLC Shared Curriculum Project. Students will be travelling to Tumbarumba to meet their class mates, teachers and the other students involved in other subjects. This day has been organised by Mrs Walsh and the teachers to ensure that students have all the information ready to start classes in 2012.

Gundagai High School is teaching Ancient History, IT and Senior Science as part of this Shared Curriculum Project. Thank you goes to Mr Marffy, Mr Bishop and Mr White for their willingness to be involved in this exciting opportunity. Thank you to Mrs Walsh for her Coordination of the project and the training of the teachers.



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.

Priority Schools Program

Gundagai High School is going to complete surveys 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 support the school develop and expand many programs that develop the learning of students at Gundagai high School. There will be more information coming and where and when the surveys will be completed although will take place in Term 1 2012.

THANK YOU

- THANK YOU to all staff for their hard work and efforts in 2011 in providing valuable learning opportunities for students as part of the teaching curriculum and extra curriculum.
- THANK YOU to all the School Administration Staff who support the teachers in their everyday work and ensure that the school runs smoothly.
- THANK YOU to the excellent teachers filling positions for absent colleagues and we thank them very much for their efforts.

There are a number of staff who are going to be enjoying a change in scenery for 2012. We wish Ms Veronica Thake, Mrs Fiona Smallwood, and Mrs Gretchen Walsh, all the very best. Mrs Joy Patterson and Mr Jamin Hall (Relieving Head Teacher Science/PD/H/PE) will be rejoining us in 2012. There may be some other staff changes for 2012 but these are yet to be confirmed.

THANK YOU to Liz Knight for her work as ESL Teacher in Terms 3 & 4 and we wish her well in her new position at Gadara School in Tumut.

THANK YOU to the P&C members who have been working tirelessly to support Gundagai High School.

Have a Merry Christmas and Safe Holidays.

Jennifer Miggins
Principal



DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Student Lockers

The P&C has ordered a total of 60 student lockers, these will be available from early term 1, 2012. If you would like to secure the hire of a locker for your child, please pay \$60 at the school office. Cheques need to be made payable to the Gundagai High School P&C. Please see form at the end of the newsletter.

School facilities standards review

You can now have your say on the classrooms of the future by participating in an online survey as part of a comprehensive review of the School Facilities Standards. The standards, developed during the 1970s, outline how school facilities are designed and built. The review will consider changes in the way education is delivered, technological advances and increased community expectations.

Your ideas will be used to assist in creating design standards that will inform the development or refurbishment of schools that are appropriate for the future. The survey takes approximately 20 minutes to complete and is open until November 28. www.surveymonkey.com/sfparent

Short film competition

Bicycle NSW is calling all budding film makers to submit a three-minute video to promote bike riding as a sustainable, healthy and environmentally friendly form of transport and recreation. The film does not have to have dialogue and is free for all schools and students under 16. The prizes are \$1000, \$500 and \$250.

Entries close 3 February 2012. For more information and to register:

<http://bicyclensw.org.au/content/calling-all-budding-film-makers>

Safe partying

Final exams are nearly over and many students will want to let off steam. Whether your teen parties at home or on the Gold Coast, you will want them to have fun yet stay safe.

Being approachable and knowledgeable about the potential risks is a good start. Some good information for parents can be found at:

School A to Z: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/time-to-party>

My Nite: www.mynite.com.au/

Drug Education Network: www.den.org.au/resources/parent-info/

Australia Day film and photography competitions

Two competitions are currently open that celebrate what it means to be Australian.

The Australia Day Council's Living Australian online photography competition is running with the theme of 'Make your Mark Australia' for 2012. The junior division prize is \$1000 and a Canon EOS 600D DSLR Camera. The open division carries a cash prize of \$4000 with the winning image immortalized on an Australian stamp.

The Reel Australian Short Film Competition is also open. Students can submit an original short film in response to the question: 'What makes a mark on your Australia?'

There are three divisions: junior, open and mobile with prizes including cash, an iPad2 and a camera.

Both competitions close on 6 December. More info at: www.AUSSIEVAULT.com.au.



Youth info a click away

Links and resources for young people on areas including: legal rights; school and beyond; health and wellbeing; disabilities; work and money; getting help; are available on the YouthNSW website.

The site includes a comprehensive list of grants and funding available to young people to pursue specific projects.

Go to: www.youth.nsw.gov.au/

Girls Riverina Cricket Team

Congratulations to Meg Armour and Stephanie Cribb who were selected to be part of the Girls Riverina Cricket Team.

DER LAPTOPS

Any students needing to return DER Laptops need to have done so by Thursday, 1ST December.



The school TSO, Mr Jones, will not be available on Friday 2nd December.

Gundagai High School Presentation Day Award Ceremony

Friday 9th December 2011
Commencing at 2pm

Parents and community members are invited to join us on this occasion to recognise students who have been focused on their learning and who have made outstanding achievements throughout the year.

Year 10 students will each receive their **Portfolio** and **School Certificate**.

All students are requested to wear full school uniform.

*****Please be seated in the MPC by 1.50pm*****



COMMUNITY NEWS

GUMNUT CHILDCARE CENTRE



Enrolments for 2012 are now being taken for Ages 0-5yrs

We provide a nurturing environment that supports all areas of children's development.

Did you know that at Gumnut our preschool curriculum is the same as at any preschool in NSW?

Our program is delivered by qualified University Degree and Early Childhood teachers.

All families are eligible to receive Childcare Benefits. Working families are eligible for a childcare rebate which reduces fees by 50%

Opening hours 8am-5.30pm + open school holidays

Ph: 6944 1889 or gumnut1@westnet.com.au for bookings

JENNIFER SMARTS SCHOOL OF DANCE – END OF YEAR CONCERT

When: Sunday 11th December 2011

Time: 3pm

Where: Gundagai High School MPC

Cost: \$6.00 per adult

\$3.00 for Concession card holders and children 4-16 (Children under 4 free)

\$15.00 per family

Tickets can be purchased at the door.

The students would like to show you their talents. Come along to support them and be entertained by their wonderful dancing. There will be a variety of dancing including ballet, Jazz and Tap.

Afternoon tea will be provided (at no additional cost) at the conclusion of the concert.

SWIMMING CLUB

Swimming Club will be having their street stall 7th, 8th & 9th December. Could all swimmers bring a hamper item with them to swimming club on Thursday night or at training on Monday's. Cooking is also needed for the street stall, if you can assist by cooking please deliver cooking items to the stall on all of the days.

Thankyou your support is very much appreciated.



ROAD SAFETY



Do you enjoy riding bicycles or walking on the roads? Before you go out you should stop and think about the consequences of what could possibly happen.



RIDING BICYCLES AND SKATEBOARDS

Skateboarding and bike riding are popular activities for teenagers. When you practice them safely and use protective equipment, skateboarding and bike riding can be safe, fun and healthy sports. Skateboarding and bike riding can be enjoyable but there are also consequences of many actions that can happen on skateboards and bikes.

Many teenagers that ride bikes and skateboards take the risk of not wearing a helmet because they don't think that they will be in an accident or they think they are 'too cool' to wear a helmet. They like to ride on the footpaths or wander all over the road but what happens if a car, bus or truck comes around a corner unexpectedly when they aren't looking and runs over the victim? This is caused by not looking at what is going on around them and not acting responsibly.



PEDESTRIANS AND PASSENGERS

People who get their driving licences like to go places with their friends and sometimes attempt to show off and do things that they don't want to because of peer pressure. Most of these people that encourage them to do these things don't realise what can happen if something goes wrong. They just think that the driver will be the only victim if they happen to suddenly become involved in a car accident. If a pedestrian is walking across a pedestrian crossing and a car doesn't see them because the driver is being distracted by the other people in the car, the pedestrian will most likely be killed just because of the littlest mistake. 'The littlest distraction can do the biggest harm.'



PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOUR AND EQUIPMENT

There are many ways to reduce some of the accidents that happen. Bike riders should wear helmets, reflective clothing and protection pads. They should also be aware of what is going on around them such as looking both ways before you cross the road. Pedestrians should use pedestrian crossings, look both ways before crossing the road and use the footpaths whenever possible. The driver and the passengers in cars should always wear seatbelts.



LAWS AND RULES

There are lots of different laws that pedestrians, drivers or riders have to follow. By law, bike riders need to wear protective gear, reflective clothing, a helmet and at night time, flashing lights. The driver should ensure that all of the passengers in the car and himself are wearing a seatbelt or a restraint of some sort. They should also obey the road rules and be careful of their actions when driving. Pedestrians should give way to cars and look when crossing the road even if it is a pedestrian crossing.





*Gundagai High School
P & C Association*

RETURN SLIP – HIRE OF SCHOOL LOCKER

Student Name: _____

Year Group: _____

I will hire a locker for my child Yes / No

I will hire _____ lockers

I will pay by: term / year

I have enclosed payment by:

a) cheque made payable to Gundagai High School P & C Association

or

b) cash

in the amount of \$ _____

Signature: _____

Date: ___/___/___