



Friday, 16 March 2012

Gundagai High School
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Principal: Jennifer Miggins

Term Dates

Term 1 ☞ 27th Jan – 5th April

DATES FROM THE CALENDAR:

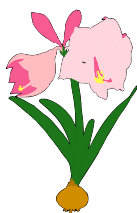
Term 1

Week 9

- ✓ **Monday 19th March**
Girls Lifestyle Day
- ✓ **Tuesday 20th March**
VET Primary Industries – Bike Training Day @ Wagga
- ✓ **Wednesday 21st March**
Cattle Parading @ Tumut
11.10am onwards
- ✓ **Friday 23rd March**
Boys Tennis @ Wagga and
Boys Basketball @ GHS

Week 10

- ✓ **Monday 26th March**
Year 12 Mid Course Exams start



**Please have P&C
bulb orders returned
to school office by
Monday 19th.**

Thank you for your support.

Gundagai High School NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

PRIORITY SCHOOLS PROGRAM

Thank you to those parents who returned their survey, I am sure your child has enjoyed their treat as a result. Please, if there are any outstanding surveys, we need them, so please return them Monday 19th March to the Front Office. Thank you

Year 6 Parent and Student Information Night for Year 7 2013 - Tuesday 6th March, 2012.

This evening was very positive for Year 6 parents and students, as they had the opportunity to be introduced to Gundagai High School, its curriculum, expectations, facilities, staff members and have a tour of the school. This is the beginning of the Year 6 Transition program for Year 6 students into high school. Considering the weather the numbers were terrific, but for those who missed out, there will be another evening, *The Parent Orientation Night* on Tuesday 4th December at 6pm. The night before the student's Orientation Day on Wednesday 5th December, 2012.

Annual School Report (ASR) Survey

Thank you to those parents who completed this survey, as it helps us evaluate our practices and make improvements to student learning opportunities.

Educational Support Review – English

Gundagai High School's focus is on continuous improvement as part of the Department of Education and Communities School Development Policy. This week a number of English staff, students and parents were interviewed and some teachers were observed in their classrooms. This was to gain insight into teaching and learning through the English Faculty. As a result of this review, strategies and recommendations will be made for avenues to undertake to make improvements that will be implemented over time by all English staff.

Record of School Achievement (RoSA)

The Board of Studies Liaison Officer (BOSLO) Lindy Billing spoke to staff on Thursday 8th March about the new Record of School Achievement (RoSA).



We acknowledge the Wiradjuri people who
are the traditional custodians of this Land.

Strive to Serve



Please see at the end of the newsletter more information regarding the RoSA, which is a modified Media release from the Minister of Education Adrian Piccoli.

A Parent/Employer Information Night was held on Thursday 8th March regarding the RoSA and it was pleasing to see so many interested parents and students. Students will be given more information as the year progresses.

Voluntary Contributions and Subject Fees

Individual student invoices will be posted home shortly outlining the Voluntary General School Contribution fee and Course Subject fees payable for your child.

While I emphasise the voluntary nature of the **General School Contribution**, it is vital that you realise that funds raised in this way provide additional resources for your children, assist in improving the school environment and in up-dating the school's capital equipment, such as computers.

Course Subject Fees result when students elect particular subjects to study. They need to be paid when students choose options that call for the provision of special resources in these subjects. No student will be denied the educational experiences of practical work but completed projects can only be taken home by students who have contributed to the cost of materials.

The quality of your child's education, in part, depends upon your financial support in these matters.

Thank you for your support in paying these as soon as possible.

CONGRATULATIONS MEG ARMOUR on representing Gundagai High School and the Riverina at the CHS Girls Cricket Carnival.

Jennifer Miggins
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

Attendance

Students who have had less than an 85% attendance rate during term 1, have received a letter over the last week. Year advisors are informing parents that the attendance of your child is below the 85% threshold and if this trend continues they may be putting their educational needs at risk.

Gundagai High Schools Home School Liaison Officer (HSLO) continues to monitor student attendance and students who have below 85% in attendance may be added to his case load. We hope that students can improve their attendance and make the best out of their schooling opportunities.

The *Education Act (1990)* requires parents to ensure that children between the ages of six and fifteen attend school on each day that the school is open for instruction. If children are absent from school, parents are required to provide the school with an acceptable explanation within seven days of the absence.

It is hoped that this communication will enhance parent and students awareness of the attendance obligations and requirements of students in NSW public schools.

Homework and study tips

Homework helps distil and expand on concepts learned in the classroom. Relaxing, getting organised and using good time management are all ways to help make homework less of a stress for the whole family.

For a host of great tips that will have your teen blitzing their homework, see the School A to Z homework tips under the homework and study link: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/homework-and-study/homework-tips>

HSIE FACULTY NEWS

Year 10 Geography Excursion

The Compulsory Year 10 Geography Field Trip to Lake Albert has been postponed until **Monday 26th March** due to flooding. Students will need to bring a clipboard, pens, lunch (can't buy lunch) and wear a hat and appropriate footwear and clothing on the day. Hopefully we will have sunshine on the day!

MATHS FACULTY NEWS

Year 7 Mathematics Class Changes

During the first 8 weeks of school, Year 7 Mathematics classes were ungraded. After completing their first test it has been decided to form two graded classes to better cater for the individual needs of students. These classes will be 7M and 7P.

Students in 7M Mathematics will concentrate on improving their skills in Year 7 Mathematics and on improving their numeracy skills.

Students in 7P Mathematics will concentrate on improving their skills in Year 7 Mathematics and on extending these skills.

Mr P Mann

Head Teacher Maths

SPORT NEWS - CRICKET

Gundagai High School Year 11 student Meg Armour represented the Riverina at the CHS Girls Cricket carnival in the Cronulla Shire recently. It was Gundagai High School's first Riverina representative in a few years and Meg performed well in her role as an all-rounder. Meg thoroughly enjoyed her experience playing cricket and although the Riverina team were defeated the team improved each day. It was a great experience for Meg and the school is very proud of her achievements. I spoke to the Riverina coach Nathan Brookes after the carnival, and he mentioned to me how strongly Meg played and was extremely happy with her efforts.

Well done, Meg!!

Rodney Crane
GHS Cricket
Coordinator



DER UPDATE

With the release of this year's DER laptop we have a new padded protective case available for order, along with accessories such as chargers and batteries. Below is a price list for each piece of equipment available for students to buy through the front office. There may be a delay while a new order is made if we do not have the product in stock.

Product	Model #	Price Ex GST
Padded Zamba Case	0A60936	\$16
Year 12 Charger	55Y9372	\$25
Year 9 – 11 Charger	40Y7708	\$25
Year 12 Battery	57Y6346	\$66
Year 11 Battery	57Y4559	\$66
Year 10 Battery	0A36278	\$66
Year 9 Battery	0A36292	\$66



COMMUNITY NEWS

Swimming Club Presentation

12pm at Lotts. BBQ lunch provided.

Final Registration Day - Gundagai Junior Panthers Football (Soccer)

Friday 16th March at the Gundagai District Services Club, back room 4pm to 5.30pm

Any queries call Rich Manton: 0428 160 689 or Meredith Tait: 0438 835 658

Tumut Bull Ants Junior Rugby Union Club - Registration Day & Try Rugby Night

All welcome for a Free Family BBQ and Try rugby skills activities night on the 15th March at 6pm for all children.

Player Registration

Date: Thursday 15th March 2012

Where: Jarrah Oval Tumut - Bulls Home Ground

Time: 6.00pm Cost: \$60 per player

Registration Benefits

All children receive the following when registering:

1. Club football bag
2. Club socks & shorts (given out on first game)
3. Try Rugby pack
4. Brumbies rugby card giving free access to all Brumbies Club games

Rugby is a great social event for the whole family with 2 games every 2nd weekend, keeping 2 weekends a month free. Girls welcomed in age groups U 7 – U 9s, age groups include under 7s, 9s, 11s & 13s. Training is held Tuesdays at Jarrah Oval, Tumut 5.30pm. Enquires contact David Elworthy on 0418 694401. For more details visit

www.tumutbullants.rugbynet.com.au

CRL of NSW will be in Gundagai this Saturday, 17th March, between 10-30am and 11-30am at



Carberry Park. The purpose of this visit is to thank the SES volunteers for their fantastic effort and hardwork they provided to the Gundagai community during the recent flood.



Adam Perry from the CRL will bring Adam Peek (retired NRL Bulldogs player), James Gavet (current Bulldogs forward), Andrew Ryan (retired Bulldogs 2011 Captain), Simon Woolford (retired Raiders player and NRL Ambassador - formally from Young), Terry Quinn (CEO for the CRL), Jessica Schwartz (P/A to Terry Quinn), Brad Walter (Journalist for the Sydney Morning Herald and commentator on "Big Sports Breakfast" show).



To be confirmed - The Footy Show will also be in Gundagai this Saturday to speak to victims of the flood and SES volunteers.



RECORD OF SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENT TO REPLACE SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

In August last year, the NSW Minister for Education Adrian Piccoli announced that the School Certificate would be abolished and there would be the introduction of the Record of School Achievement (RoSA), a credential for students leaving school prior to receiving their HSC.

Fully implemented the RoSA will:

- Be a record of the full range of student achievements right up to the day they do their HSC or leave school
- Provide an electronic record of achievements that students can use at any time
- Use assessment by teachers in schools, moderated by the Board of Studies NSW to ensure reliability and fairness of grades
- Provide the capacity to record vocational courses and students' vocational experiences as well as citizenship and leadership achievements such as First Aid courses, community languages courses and Duke of Edinburgh awards
- Offer on-line literacy and numeracy tests, with particular emphasis on work readiness, that students will be able to undertake twice a year from next year.

The RoSA will be available electronically and as a verifiable hard copy on demand with the most up-to-date information on a student's achievements, across all subjects and a range of extra-curricular activities.

Mr Piccoli said the formal RoSA credential would be awarded to eligible students who choose to leave school prior to receiving their HSC, while still allowing students to view and download a transcript of their achievements when applying for jobs or further education or training.

Further details on implementation will be provided by the Board of Studies NSW throughout 2012.

RoSA Key Facts:

Who will get it?

Students will need to have completed the mandatory requirements for Stage 5 (Year 10) to be eligible for a RoSA. Those eligible students who choose to leave school prior to receiving their HSC, will receive a RoSA.

When will they get it?

A RoSA will only be provided to those eligible students who choose to leave school prior to receiving their HSC.

What will it show?

A RoSA will show grades for all the courses a student has completed up until the point they leave school – including those completed in Year 10, Year 11 or even Year 12.

Why give grades?

Grading is a way of showing a student's level of achievement in a course in a way that can be compared fairly between individual students.

Giving grades in courses completed after year 10 will also mean that every student gets acknowledgement for all the work they have done, right up to the time they leave school.

How will students get grades?

A to E grades are currently awarded for courses completed in Year 10. That same system will now be extended to include courses completed after Year 10 as well (up to the time a student receives an HSC result).

Students will be required to submit assessment tasks as delivered by their schools. Teachers will then use marks from those assessments to allocate a grade for each student at the end of the course. Teachers will submit those grades to the Board of Studies NSW for inclusion on the RoSA if required

How can we be sure that grades are awarded consistently?

It is important for students, parents and employers that grades are awarded consistently. Teachers already have a strong level of professional judgement, and the Board of Studies NSW will support that further by providing workshops and online resources, including student work samples.

Why offer literacy/numeracy tests?

Parents and employers in particular are increasingly interested in having a clear affirmation of a student's fundamental levels of literacy and numeracy. This measure will help provide valuable information to an employer when they are considering job candidates who have not completed their HSC.

The literacy/numeracy tests will also help students, parents and teachers determine if a student needs particular support in an area, or form the basis of further discussion about whether a student is ready to leave school.

How will literacy/numeracy tests be developed and delivered?

The Board of Studies NSW will offer optional literacy/numeracy tests. The tests will be delivered online and information will be provided to schools about supervision of the tests.

Schools will be asked to provide two 'windows' each school year in which students could sit the tests. Students will only be able to sit the test one time in each window, however they can sit the test again in a new window should they decide to remain at school. If a student does sit the test more than once, it will be the results from their most recent test that will be applicable when they leave school.

Why record extra-curricular activities?

Increasingly, parents, students, employers and providers of further education are looking at more than a student's level of academic attainment. This information can help form a more comprehensive picture of a student's interests, commitments and achievements in areas other than school.

How will extra-curricular activities be recorded?

The Board of Studies NSW will develop a tool that will allow a student to capture and consolidate evidence of extra-curricular activities. This tool will be developed and piloted in schools in 2012. It is intended that, certainly in the early stages, the tool will focus on activities that already have an authentication framework. This will make it easier for employers and others to be sure that the achievements recorded are correct. Activities widely available that already have authentication include: life-saving and first aid qualifications, VET courses, AMEB certification and the Duke of Edinburgh Awards.

The above information comes from: **The Hon Adrian Piccoli MP Minister for Education**
MEDIA RELEASE Thursday 16 February 2012

REASON FOR ABSENCE



My son/daughter _____ in Year _____
was absent from school on _____
(dates student absent)

Reason: ☐ Sick ☐ Medical/Dental ☐ Family Leave

Signed: _____ Parent/Carer

Date: ____/____/____

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