



**Friday, 24 August 2012**

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Principal: Jennifer Miggins

**DATES FROM THE CALENDAR:**

**Term 3**

**Week 7**

- ✓ **Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August**
  - Yr 7 Immunisations
  - Year 8 Tree Planting
  - Maths Excursion

**Week 8**

- ✓ **Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**  
Year 11 Exams start
- ✓ **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September**  
CHS Athletics
- ✓ **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September**  
CHS Athletics

**Coming Up**

**Gundagai High School  
Variety Night**

Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012  
6.30pm for 7.00pm start  
\$5.00 per person or \$10.00/family

# Gundagai High School

# NEWSLETTER

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

### Congratulations

Harry Lemon has been selected to attend a Rural High Schools Medical Career Workshop to be held at the University of NSW in the next school holidays. Only thirty students across the state have been selected to attend the workshop that includes a series of lecture, visits to hospital, museum and laboratory visits, hands on experience and forum. Well done Harry!!

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Peter Lindley and Lindsay Britt our Industrial Technology-Timber Product and Furnishing students for their outstanding efforts on their Higher School Certificate practical projects and their associated portfolios which make a substantial contribution to their final HSC results.

These projects were externally marked by Board of Studies representatives (who are trained and practising teachers) on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2012. Well done, Boys!!!

### VET Internal Audit

Congratulations to our VET Teachers who have successfully shown that their delivery of VET courses is to the highest standard. An external VET audit team attended Gundagai High School on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August and carried out an extensive audit of course delivery, record keeping, work placement documentation and many other aspects of VET Delivery. Students were also involved in this process. Well done the VET Team!!

### Reminder

Year 8 and 10 students if they have not returned their Subject Selection forms. They must be returned as a matter of urgency.



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

*Strive to Serve*

## Reminder

If your child is sick, please let us know, but also keep them at home until they are on the mend and/or have suitable medication or doctor's clearance. The school has suffered from many absences of students and staff due to the flu being quickly spread.

It is timely to remember when coughing and sneezing to cover the mouth and nose and wash hands regularly to try and prevent the spread of germs.

## Riverina Rock Camp

Adam Daley has again been attending the Riverina Rock Camp this week. We look forward to Adam's feedback.

## End of Semester 1 Reports

Unfortunately some students were missing subject reports at the end of semester 1. These have now been completed and have been distributed to the students on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> August.

## Important End of Year Information

With the removal of School Certificate tests and introduction of the Record of School Achievement (RoSA) in 2012, all students except those undertaking Higher School Certificate examinations will be required to attend school up until the last day of teaching.

**All students are required to be in attendance until the third last day of Term 4, Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2012.** School staff are then involved in school development days at the end of Term 4 2012. Prior to this date, programs for students in all year groups will be based upon the achievement of outcomes as appropriate to curriculum and syllabus requirements.

Where parents are seeking permission for their child not to be at school for a period of time the matter should be referred to the Principal or Deputy Principal.

Jennifer Miggins  
Principal

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

### Download a FREE copy of Ultimate Maths Invaders for your family.

Build kids' rapid-fire maths skills which are so easily lost in today's digital world. To download a copy for your family go to [www.edalive.com](http://www.edalive.com) and follow the prompts.

Ultimate Maths Invaders teaches kids aged 5 – 15 all their tables and number facts while building mental maths ability. Ultimate Maths Invaders extends able mathematicians, deepening and broadening their abilities with advanced challenges in fractions, decimals, percentages, numeration, counting, squares, square roots, powers and directed numbers.

Please go to [www.edalive.com](http://www.edalive.com) to download your free copy.



### Careers information

Is your child thinking about what they'd like to do when they finish school? The myfuture website is a careers information and exploration service with thousands of resources, from occupation profiles and job seeking tips to articles and videos. The website includes information for both students and parents.

Go to: <http://www.myfuture.edu.au/>

### Lockers

Term 3 payments for lockers are now overdue. Please pay at the Front Office as soon as possible.

Simon Bridgeman  
Deputy Principal

# Firewood Raffle

### Year 10 Firewood Raffle

Would you like a load of firewood- cut and delivered to the Gundagai town area? If so, we have a great offer for you! Simply buy one or more tickets in the Year 10 firewood raffle for your chance to win a ute load of firewood.

If you live out of town– don't despair– the firewood can be loaded onto your trailer or ute instead.



**Tickets are only \$2** and the prize is drawn on 31st August.

Most year 10 students have raffle books or you can simply send money to school with your child or contact the office for tickets.



# Geography Competition

## Geography Students Excel in National Geographic Channel Australian Geography Competition

Geography students from Gundagai High School demonstrated key geographical skills and knowledge in the 2012 National Geographic Channel Australian Geography Competition.

There were 3 student geographers at our school who performed at a very high level in the Competition this year with 2 Distinctions and 1 Credit. Congratulations to Tom Lemon and Daniel Stuckey for gaining intermediate distinctions and to Todd Dean for gaining a senior credit. All students who participated are to be commended on their efforts, especially the Year 7 students who hadn't actually studied Geography at the time of the competition.

The National Geographic Channel Australian Geography Competition attracts students from all over Australia – around 80,000 of them each year – so it's a real indicator of how well our students are doing in this important subject.

Kath Berg, the competition's national coordinator, said the competition could only cover a small slice of the diverse subject of geography.

"This year's competition tested the students' understanding of topics such as natural disasters, sustainable energy, and countries in our region, and also skills such as interpreting information in statistics, maps and satellite images," said Ms Berg.

"With the introduction of the national curriculum in geography, in coming years the competition can be more closely aligned with the unified curriculum across Australia," she said.

For students under 16 years of age, the top scorers from each state take part in the Final for Under 16s, with the winner representing Australia in the 2013 National Geographic World Championship in Russia. High-achieving older students progress through a 6-day training/selection event, Geography's Big Week Out, to make the Australian team to the 2013 International Geography Olympiad in Japan.

The Competition is a joint initiative of the Australian Geography Teachers' Association and the Royal Geographical Society of Queensland, and proudly sponsored by National Geographic Channel.

# P & C News

- The Gundagai schools have begun fund raising activities in support of the Youth Council's Skate Park. Gundagai High Schools' raffle will begin shortly and be drawn at Variety Night Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September. Funds from all the fundraising activities will be combined and presented by school representatives.
- The P&C met with the school's uniform supplier, Poppets and Crystal Bear Pty Ltd, at the meeting on Monday. Some business restructure in 2011 caused supply issues which did not roll over in the beginning of 2012 which should be now rectified. A number of issues that have arisen with respect to some of the garments have been discussed and are being investigated and addressed by the company to prevent any further problems. This was a very positive meeting and with some changes to occur, the purchasing of uniform items should be more streamlined and timely.
- **Fund Raising at Gundagai High School – Council Elections Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September.**

There will be **Cake Stall**, **100 Club**, **BBQ** – breakfast and lunch, **Drinks**, **Raffle**.



**Donations to the Cake Stall** will be gratefully received on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> September at the school.

**Labels for the food items** have been included at the back of this newsletter. Thanking you in anticipation of your contribution.



- Future Street Stall in October – look out for further information to come.

Lizzie Britt  
President

# Science Catch-Up

Students in 7B Science have just finished studying a unit on FORCES. Some of their learning activities have included investigations into push and pull forces as well as non-contact forces such as magnetic and gravity. One of the highlights of this unit was designing, making and painting bottle rockets with names such as “Strawberry Thunder” and “Barry” and fins made of corflute.

The rockets were launched on the school oval, with Josie McInerney and Amber Britt producing the highest flying rocket of the day. Students agreed this was due to their design which incorporated a nose cone, reducing air resistance.

On another occasion students were challenged to design a paper aeroplane that flew the furthest. Adjustments were made to the rudder and wings, with Ebony Clark and Tylor Rolfe producing the most successful planes after 3 throws.



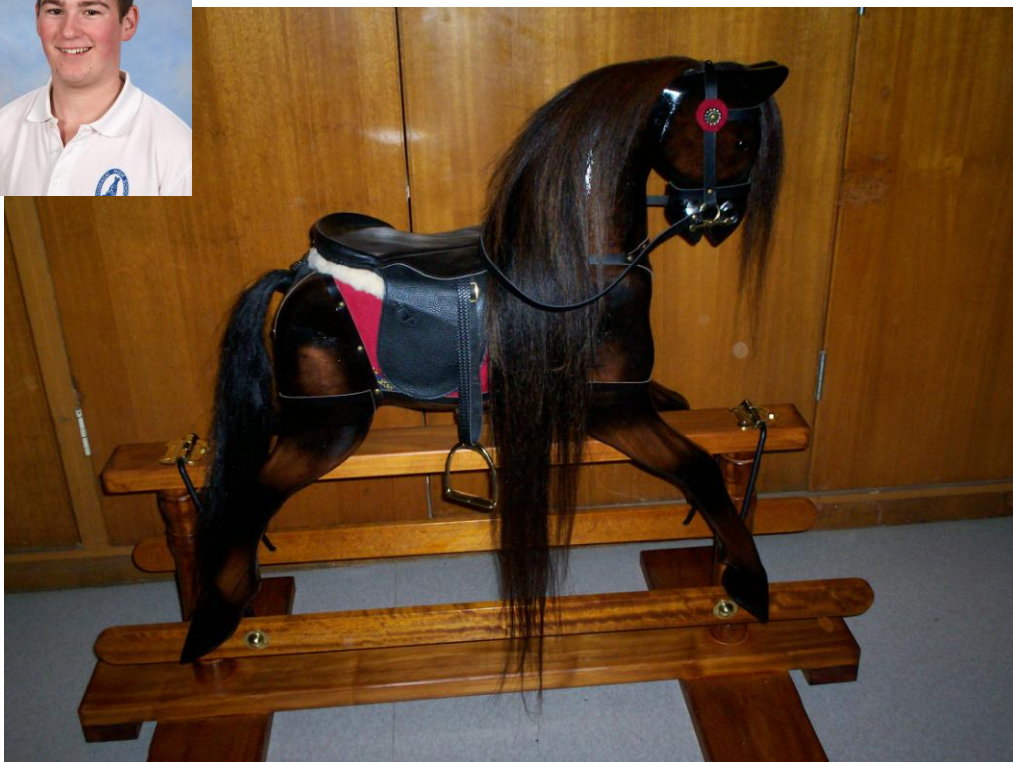
## HOMEWORK ENCOURAGEMENT:-

To encourage stage 4 students to complete set tasks on time while developing their numeracy and literacy skills, the Science/PE faculty has on offer a HD video camera. Students have been given a homework booklet and if they submit their completed sheet on the due date, they have a ticket placed in the draw for the video camera.

This prize will be drawn in the last week of this term.

**Get your homework in to get more tickets  
in the draw!**

# Yr 12 Major Projects





Education &  
Communities

# Local Schools, Local Decisions

## **A MESSAGE TO SCHOOL COMMUNITIES FROM THE NSW MINISTER FOR EDUCATION**

Right now the New South Wales Government is working with schools to advance the most far reaching changes to school education in this state in over a century – changes that are going to help all our public schools meet the challenges of education well into the future.

Nothing better illustrates this than the new way we are going to fund our public schools. We are putting students at the heart of all decision making.

On July 23 I announced the new Resource Allocation Model, known as the RAM. This delivers on my promise to change the way NSW public schools receive their funding. School communities need to have this important information.

The new RAM is central to the Local Schools, Local Decisions reform. Under the new model schools will see more of the total public school education budget and they will have more authority over how to spend it.

In NSW we are increasing the funding that goes directly to public schools to more than 70% of the total public school education budget, up from the current 10%.

The RAM takes into account the fact that students and school communities are not all the same; they have different needs and will need different levels of support. We cannot improve outcomes for individual students with an out-dated cookie cutter funding model.

The new model will provide certainty of funding for schools to employ teachers in order to adhere to the class sizes policy. No principal need worry about the cost of a teacher, principals will be able to choose teachers based on their quality and skills required to best meet the needs of their students.

The RAM will also reduce red tape. I want our principals to be innovative educational leaders, free from the constraints of too much bureaucracy. Instead of hundreds of small funding buckets to be managed and reported on, schools' resource allocation will be divided into two components. The first will see money quarantined for staffing purposes only. These resources cannot be used for anything else. The remaining component will fund all other operational requirements of the school and any discretionary needs, which may include employing additional staff.



I am sure that you will be wondering if this is going to be better than the way schools have been funded in the past. It was always an issue for schools and their communities when a small change in enrolment numbers meant a significant change in resources. Under our current model, one or two students leaving can result in the loss of a teacher and changes to classes that impact on the students and the school community. The RAM will help fix this problem but it won't happen overnight. It will take two to three years for implementation across all of our schools.

These changes need to be right for every school across NSW so before we finalise the model we are rigorously testing it across a range of school settings. When new funding under the RAM is received in the first group of schools it will be fairer, more transparent, and it will enable schools to plan more effectively with their communities.

If your school is part of the Empowering Local Schools National Partnership, some changes will happen faster than in other schools. These schools will be the first ones to be funded under this new model and will be able to involve their school communities in the allocation of resources to identified areas. Other schools will be funded by the RAM over the next two years.

The RAM will include loadings for socio-economic status, Aboriginality, English Language Proficiency and students with disability, as well as loadings for school size and location. It will provide a loading for each of these factors to ensure equity for our students.

This is a funding model that is student focused. It is simpler, fairer and transparent. And it will give schools funding stability so a small change in circumstances doesn't lead to a big change in resources.

It is the critical financial enabler of everything we are trying to achieve under Local Schools, Local Decisions; build an even better public school culture; one that promotes creativity and innovation, where the staff in our schools are willing, and supported, to try out new things.

A culture that supports a principal with ideas, energy and a willing school community, to innovate and know they'll be supported, not second guessed by head office.

It's a big change and a long overdue recognition of the capability and professional judgement of the leaders in our schools and of the importance of local decision-making in ensuring NSW continues to have a great public school system.

You can find more information about the RAM on the Local Schools, Local Decisions website at [www.schools.nsw.edu.au/lslsd](http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/lslsd). Over the coming months there will be regular updates on this site.

**Adrian Piccoli MP**  
**Minister for Education**



# Gundagai High School



Item: \_\_\_\_\_

List most to least the ingredients used:

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# Gundagai High School



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Baked on: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_



## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Gumnut Childcare Centre

#### Family Photos

**Sunday 2nd September 2012**

\$15 for a framed family photo taken by Advanced Life photographers.

What better than to do this on Father's Day!

Please call Gumnut Childcare Centre on 69 441 889 for more information or to make an appointment

**"Sundy in Gundy"** is on this **Sunday 26th August** in Gundagai.

Shops will be opening their doors, there will be market stalls, more than a dozen garage sales & car boot sales, a town Treasure Hunt will be fun for all the family (great prizes!) and there will be an exhibition and Auction of Antique Weapons and Militaria at the Old Gaol.

Come along for the opportunity to take home a treasure or just enjoy a happy day out!!

[www.visitgundagai.com.au](http://www.visitgundagai.com.au) for more details.

### Gundagai Panthers Junior Soccer Street Stall Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August

We are asking soccer parents to make a food item donation to our hamper which will be raffled.

We are also asking parents to make a cooking donation to be sold on the day and drop at Street Stall on Friday (in front of IGA) from 9am onwards. If any parents are able to sit on street stall that day or would like to drop off cooking early please contact Meredith Tait on 0438 835 658.



Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2012

Tumut Rotary Park

## **YOU ARE INVITED**

### **GUNDAGAI HOSPITAL COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS**

**Dinner Dance**  
**Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012**  
**Gundagai District Services Club**

**Brunch & Guided Tours**  
**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012**  
**Gundagai Hospital**

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL BY 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPT**  
**PLEASE CONTACT THE HOSPITAL ON 6944 1022**

## 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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