



Wednesday, 11 December  
2013

Gundagai High School  
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Principal: Jennifer Miggins

#### **DATES FROM THE CALENDAR:**

#### **Term 4:**

- ✓ **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December**  
Presentation Day in the MPC  
commencing @ 1.45pm
- ✓ **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December**  
Students last day of school

#### **2014**

- **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January** –  
Staff only return to school
- **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January** –  
Years 7, 11 and 12 return
- **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January** –  
remaining students return
- **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February** –  
GHS Swimming Carnival
- **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February** -  
P&C Meeting at school
- **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February**  
Zone Swimming Carnival  
Tumut

# Gundagai High School NEWSLETTER

## Principal's Message

Important Information for Year 10 Students – please see below

## NSW Students Online

Higher School Certificate news and updates



### Get your eRecord

Students Online is your source for information about your senior study. Log in with your Board of Studies eight-digit Student Number and six-digit PIN to access your Year 10 eRecord on 11 December.

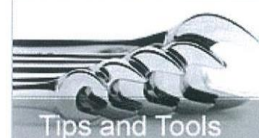
The eRecord includes your grades, and if you sat for the Literacy and Numeracy tests, your test results.

If you haven't already done so, activate your account to receive your Student Number and to create your six-digit PIN. If you have forgotten your PIN, use your Student Number to recover it.

Your eRecord is available in your personal secure account section in My Details > Enrolments/Results.

You can generate a PDF eRecord to save, print and/or email by clicking on the "Request eRecord" button found on this screen. Once requested your PDF eRecord will then be delivered to your My Details > My Messages section of your account.

visit Students Online



- [Senior study in NSW](#)
- [Important dates](#)
- [How your HSC works](#)
- [Leaving School and the RoSA](#)
- [Literacy and Numeracy tests for school leavers](#)

### About your grades

Your grades A to E are measures of achievement in a course, with A being the highest and E being the lowest level of achievement.

If you have any questions about the grade you have been awarded, contact your school Year Adviser or Curriculum coordinator in the first instance. There is a formal appeals against grades process, and your school can provide you with the criteria, details and timeframe for this.

## Student End of Year Reports

These reports will be distributed Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.



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

Strive to Serve



Education &  
Communities

### RFS Cadets on their graduation

The Graduation Ceremony was held last Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2013, with parents and Peter Jones and Ian Stewart in attendance with RFS Volunteers Ian Petty, Karen Lewin who along with Brian Lewin were the trainers of the RFS Cadets.

This has been a long standing program that has seen students who engage in the program, develop very valuable skills that will support them as members of the RFS and the life skills of teamwork and leadership. Congratulations!!



### The Certificate III Health Service Assistance TAFE students

Morgan Tozer and Kaitlin Carberry have now successfully completed their TAFE course and have graduated from Cootamundra TAFE. The photo attached has Morgan and Kaitlin with Leanne Hogan the Manager of Cootamundra TAFE Campus. Congratulations!!



### NSW Premier's ANZAC Scholarship recipient, James Petty

At this week's Assembly James presented a slide show of the many places he visited in his two week tour of significant World War 2 sites in Europe. James was an exemplary ambassador for the school. Please see below:

*I am writing to let you know how impressed I was with James and what a wonderful representative he was for Gundagai High School and for NSW. James participated in the commemorations with great respect and reverence wherever they were held; he represented his fellow scholars extremely well,..... James is a fine young person and I believe that he will continue to bring great credit to his school and family.*

*Dr Checka MacLaurin Manager Awards and Recognition*



**Thankyou** to our committed staff who work tirelessly to provide valuable learning opportunities for our students.

**Thankyou** also to our hardworking P&C, what a fantastic group who always look for opportunities to support Gundagai High School.

# Happy Holidays and a Safe Return to Gundagai High School in 2014



## Deputy Principal's Message

**Motivational Media** visited the school on Wednesday morning. The performance was enjoyed by all the students and staff.

**Please remind your child** to collect any clothing/shoes/wood and metalwork projects/skateboards/helmets etc. from the front office by the end of term. Unmarked items, including shoes will be taken to the local op-shop.

### Student Lockers

Students that are currently hiring lockers need to get all items out of their lockers by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December.

All lockers will be up for hire in 2014. See the office ladies for a locker hire permission note.

### Summer holiday fun

Sport and Recreation is giving away a kids' camp for two. Simply tell them in 25 words or less why you'd love to win a Sport and Recreation holiday, and like their [Facebook page](#). The competition closes on 13 December, 2013.

Enter the competition: [dsr.nsw.gov.au/win](http://dsr.nsw.gov.au/win)

Simon Bridgeman  
Deputy Principal



# 2013 ANZAC Memorial Scholarship



## A James Petty Experience.

Wow what a brilliant experience! On Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December I got back from my two week trip to Europe and what an adventure it was! Three weeks ago we all arrived at Sydney and started to get to know who we were going to be travelling with for the next two weeks.

About 24 hours later we arrived at Paris, France. We spent the next day sightseeing throughout Paris seeing all the popular tourist attractions including – The Eiffel Tower, The Arc de Triomphe, The Louvre and Notre Dame.

Over the next couple of days we followed in the footsteps of Australia's WW1 Soldiers along the battlefields of the Somme. Here we visited a number of military cemeteries and memorials which were scattered throughout the countryside.

Next, we said goodbye to France and travelled to Belgium for a couple of days. We stayed at a historic town called Ypres which was fought over a number of times during WW1. During our stay in Ypres we visited a number of museums, a local school and on a number of occasions the iconic Menin Gate.

After a couple of days in Ypres we farewelled the Western Front and headed to London. Whilst in London we visited many of the iconic sights such as Westminster Abbey, Big Ben, St Pauls Cathedral and Buckingham Palace. As well as visiting more museums and military memorials.

On the journey in the footsteps of our ANZACs I have learned a lot about Australia's involvement in WW1 and made friendships and memories that will last a lifetime. Thank you to all those who made it possible!



# Year 10 Geography Excursion

## Fieldwork at Lake Albert



On the 7<sup>th</sup> November 2013, Year 10 travelled to the Riverina Environmental Education Centre and Lake Albert in Wagga Wagga to participate in their compulsory fieldwork study. It was a hot day but that didn't stop any of the students from getting in and getting their hands dirty.

Everyone worked together to complete their Lake Albert Catchment Study. They completed field sketches, water quality tests, soil surveys and habitat assessments.

Students were given the opportunity to learn about the methods for collecting data, and undertook tests for turbidity, salinity, phosphorus, ammonia, soil slaking and measured the groundwater using a Piezometer.

It was a great day for everyone involved and assisted students in understanding and improving the quality of their environment.

Miss Batcheldor.



### Gundagai High is a PBL School

(POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR FOR LEARNING)

*Our core values are*

- *Respect*
- *Responsibility*
- *Integrity*

# Core of Life Program

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December, all Year 9 students participated in the “Core of Life Program”. This program is designed to:

1. Increased levels of responsibility and confidence in youth
2. Facilitate positive community and early childhood , and
3. Assist in decreasing teenage pregnancy rates



Core of Life is a ‘hands on’ health promotion / prevention / early intervention program that has been designed by midwives to empower male and female adolescents with real and factual information on what is involved in becoming pregnant.

Year 9 students were able to interact with the seminar presenters, asking great questions, getting involved in role plays (see photo’s), and getting ‘first hand’ knowledge from the people who work in this field every day.

Gundagai High School and Year 9 students would like to thank Paula Olsen, Heather Jamieson, Marion Nicholes, and Lenny Connolly for their time and efforts in providing a very valuable seminar to our students.

## Year 6 Orientation Day



Thirty-four students from Gundagai and Gundagai South Public schools, St Patricks School and Adelong and Nangus Public schools, attended our Year 6 Orientation Day on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> December.

Students had a taste of high school life for a day and all had a great time. Year 6 started their day by attending our usual morning Roll Call in the MPC, sitting in their soon-to-be Year 7 location and listening to the daily notices read by our Deputy Principal, Mr Bridgeman.

After Roll Call, Year 6 students met with representatives of the Gundagai High Student Council who split them into four smaller groups and took them for a walk-around the school. The Year 6 students learnt simple but important things, such as the location of rooms, how to place a lunch order and the procedure for arriving late at school.



We then split the students into two larger groups rotating between the MPC - where they did fun PE games with Mr Hall and their SRC peers and the CLS - where Mr Bishop gave them access to the school's computer system (please don't forget your log-ins and passwords!)

Our canteen ladies provided the students with a tasty lunch after which we watched a display by the school's Rural Fire Service Cadets as part of their graduation ceremony. The RFS cadets impressed us with their fire fighting skills, extinguishing simulated gas and motor vehicle collision fires. Mr Chadwick explained to the students that RFS cadets will be a sport option for Year 7 next year from Term 2 and we encourage everyone to consider this fun and valuable sports choice.



To round off the day, students did a 'Knowledge Quest' to find out information about our school, which we discussed later in the cool of the TLS.

I would like to thank all staff who assisted on the day – teachers, SASS and canteen. And a big shout out to Terry Watson and the SRC crew. Great job everyone!



Craig Palmer  
Year 7 Adviser - 2014

## *Sport Lifestyle and Recreation 2013*

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December saw the second of the classes Canoeing excursions take place. After practicing on Morley's creek in week 5, the class organised a canoeing trip down part of the Murrumbidgee.

Finishing at the boat ramp on nangus road, all students could appreciate the difference between Morley's creek and the power of the Murrumbidgee. Riding the current, staying away from the submerged logs and negotiating some tricky bends added to the experience.



The Yr 11 students and their Yr 12 classmates have worked consistently through the year, coordinating the schools Swimming and Athletics carnivals, helping with the organisation of weekly sport, acting as officials at the Riverina X-Country carnival. Developing their knowledge and understanding of many sports and learning their basic First Aid skills, whilst understanding how Work Health and Safety plays an important role in the sporting arena.



They have been lucky enough to have a double period every 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday which has allowed them to participate in a many of the local sport and recreation activities available to the Gundagai Community. Learning squash, Golf, Lawn Bowls and now canoeing have definitely been highlights, for some of the class it has been the first time they have experienced some of these activities.

The students have been responsible for the planning and organisation of all their activities and have shown tremendous organisation skills and the ability to adapt when things like the weather enforce changes to the plans.

The class and I would like to thank the Ex-services club for the use of their facilities throughout the year and also the local Scout group who have lent them the canoes for their last two excursion, To quote one student" what a way to finish off the year".

Simon Bridgeman



## RFS Cadets do well at Championships

Gundagai has good reason to be proud of our Rural Fire Service Cadets after the team placed equal eleventh out of 26 highly competitive teams from across the nation at the Australian National Fire Cadet Championships held in Myuna Bay in early October.

Led by cadet captain Sabrina Meurs, the team consisted of members Stacey Lewin, Savannah Thomson, Marten Petty, Harry McDonnell and Stuart Petty.

With Sabrina being the only member to have previously tasted competition, Cadet Coordinator Dale Chadwick described the team's efforts as "phenomenal."

"They were absolutely fantastic," Mr Chadwick said.

"In one of the hardest events in the competition, the tanker and ladder, the team placed fourth, which was a great result?"





The team narrowly missed out on third place in the event, which would have netted them a bronze medal.

Year 10 student Sabrina praised her team who all agreed that throughout the course of the three-day event, they came up against some intense competition.

"I'm very proud of my team," Sabrina said, "especially since this was the first time that the others had competed. They all did very, very well."



Twelve-year-old Stuart, the youngest member of the team, said their rival teams were a little "intimidating", but that the championships were lots of fun and a good experience.

"All the other teams were a lot bigger," Stuart said, "with more experience."

"Since it was my first time competing, I really didn't know what to expect, but we learned heaps of new skills and made a lot of new friends."



"It was good talking to the other teams and especially seeing the ones that did things differently to how we do them."

One old friend the cadets ran into over the course of the event was NSW RFS Commissioner, Shane Fitzsimmons, who has previously visited Gundagai to present cadet graduates.

Describing the Commissioner as "a really nice guy", the cadets said he told them to, above all, have fun and make some new friends.

"He said it's not just about the competition," Sabrina said.

The cadets committed themselves to training hard in preparation

for the championships, using their Wednesday sport time and every second weekend on the town common to hone their skills and get used to working together as a team.

Throughout the competition, the cadets got the opportunity to showcase their fire fighting skills working through eight gruelling events, with the members saying that joining the RFS as a volunteer fire fighter someday could very well be on the cards.

The cadets were trained by Mr Chadwick, Ian Petty and Brian and Karen Lewin. Mr Petty and Mr and Mrs Lewin travelled to Myuna Bay with Mr Chadwick and the team. Dirk and Fiona Meurs along with Linda Petty also went along to support the team.

Competition wise, the next event on the agenda for the cadets will be held in 2014 when Pambula host the NSW RFS State Championships in September.

In the meantime, six Gundagai RFS Cadets are busy training for their upcoming graduation ceremony which involves a written test along with a demonstration of skills.

Well done, cadets – you continue to make your leaders, peers, school and community proud of your achievements.



# Year 7-10 Canberra Excursion

29<sup>th</sup> November saw 61 students across years 7-10 travel to Canberra to visit some iconic sites. Gundagai High School was successful in receiving funding support from PACER (Parliament and Civics Education Rebate) to support students attending this engaging excursion.

The PACER program encourages students' onsite learning about National democratic, historical and cultural institutions. Eligibility for funding depended upon having to travel >150km to Canberra and visiting Parliament House, Museum of Australian Democracy and the Australian War Memorial.



Parliament House, group photo



On the Balcony at Parliament House

Our visit to Parliament House allowed us to experience both the Senate and House of Representatives and learn some of the important history associated with the design and layout of these rooms, as well as some interesting facts about the functions of Parliament in Australia.

The Museum of Australian Democracy, which runs courses at Old Parliament House, had our Year 7 and 8 students on a treasure hunt learning about how Australians have had a voice in the choices that have been made to shape Australian democracy. This activity utilised interactive computer simulations to inform and challenge students on a range of topics, followed by a group discussion. After this, students were fortunate enough to visit the Senate at Old Parliament House and role play the issue of conscription, using real historical arguments made at the time,

and a very interesting set of wigs and clothes.

Also at the Museum of Australian Democracy, our year 9/10 students undertook a program called "Prime Minister Dismissed", about the dismissal of Prime Minister Whitlam in 1975. Student's role played in the House of Representatives, using arguments recorded during the history of this famous event.





Our final stop after lunch was to the Australian War Memorial, a popular attraction for our students. We enjoyed our time in the First World War area, followed by an engaging visual and auditory display during which students were able to “feel” what life was like during war time.

We wrapped this up with students looking for their relatives in the Commemoration area of the Australian War Memorial, before heading back home. On the bus, students completed their Civics and Citizenship workbooks, previously started during Focus period lessons at School in the weeks leading up to the excursion. More information can be found at [www.PACER.org.au](http://www.PACER.org.au)

Ms Appleby - HT Science  
Year 11 Adviser



**Above:**  
**At Parliament House**



**Left and Below:**  
**Role Playing at Parliament House**





# Riverina Dance Workshop

On Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> and Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December, 21 Gundagai High students represented the school at a 2 day Riverina Dance Workshop. The workshop, which also involved Tumut and Tumbarumba High Schools, focused on the development of dance over time. The students attending from GHS ranged from years 7- 10, studied a range of dance styles and particularly enjoyed Hip-Hop. All students should be congratulated on their exemplary behaviour and fantastic attitude over the 2 days. Thank you to the Dance teacher from James Fallon High, Katrina Joss for choreographing. Thanks also to Graham Smith from Tumut High for organising the event.

Merran Carr  
Dance Coordinator





# Year 11 Work Studies

Year 11 Work Studies have been completing the module Team Enterprise Project. Within this module, the students simulated a business in which they produced and sold a product. The good which the students produced and sold were hand-made Christmas Cards. Students throughout the module applied initiative, enterprise and teamwork to complete the group project. As a class, the boys were unsure whether they would sell any cards but they sold over 95 cards and raised \$180. The class discussed the finances of the project and what they would do with the money made from the cards. One student suggested they donate the money to a local charity and it was a unanimous decision to donate the \$180 to Gundagai CanAssist. The effort during this module was outstanding and the boys should be extremely proud of their achievements. The cheque was presented to Mrs Anne Tickner at the school assembly on Tuesday who was extremely appreciative of the donation. The Work Studies class would like to thank the staff for purchasing the cards and supporting their project.

Miss L Annetts  
Work Studies Teacher



Sample of the cards made



# Jump Rope for Heart - Jump Off

On Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December all students in year 7 were involved in the Jump Rope For Heart Jump Off during sport time. Students have been trying to raise money for the National Heart Foundation which conducts research and community health programs regarding cardiovascular disease. By participating in Jump Rope for Heart it is encouraging kids to enjoy physical activity and to lead a healthy lifestyle long term to prevent heart disease.



Students participated in single, doubles, group and class skipping activities in an enjoyable way. Mr Crane, Mr Hall and Mrs Murray were impressed with the skipping skills of all the students.

## Sports Star 2013

In 2011 Gundagai High School introduced the Sport Star initiative into the Wednesday afternoon sport program. The aim is to encourage fair play and good sportsmanship, whilst enjoying your afternoon at school sport. Teacher can allocate points to students at the end of the afternoon with 3, 2 or 1 point given. These points are tallied over the course of each term and the student with the most point in a given term won a \$25 Gift voucher from Moey's, whilst the overall winner for the year will receive a \$100 gift voucher at the presentation day.



This year, the winners are

**Term 1 – Ellie Sheahan**

**Term 2 – Stacey Lewin**

**Term 3 – Joseph Carberry**

**Term 4 – Zachary McDonald**

The overall winner will be announced at the Presentation Day Ceremony.

Congratulations to these students and well done to all our other students for their participation in the wide variety of sports offered throughout the year.





Dear Principal

Congratulations to you and your school on the result it achieved in the 2013 NSW Premier's School Sport Challenge.

Please find enclosed your school's overall certificate based on the average your students have achieved.

2013 has been a successful year for the Premier's School Sport Challenges. Student participation has again increased, from 234,000 to more than 247,000 with a consistent 1,100+ schools involved. It is exciting to see the Challenge being consolidated in school programs and encouraging *more* students, to be *more* active, *more* often.

Participation in the *NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge Staff Challenge* has also increased. We will be looking to engagement more teachers and other school staff in 2014. It is important to reinforce the message to young people that physical activity and healthy lifestyle choices are lifelong and not just a focus for children or "elite" sportspeople. The Challenge is a great way to get your whole school community involved and influential adult role models play a big part in encouraging students to lead a healthy life.

We trust you have enjoyed this year's Challenge and look forward to working with you again in 2014. Best wishes for an enjoyable and well deserved summer break.

Yours sincerely,

The Premier's Sporting Challenge team





NSW Premier's Sporting Challenge

**GOLD AWARD**

*Congratulations*

**Gundagai High School**

In recognition of your achievement in successfully completing  
the 2013 NSW Premier's Secondary School Sport Challenge

Barry O'Farrell MP  
Premier



Education &  
Communities

Principal Sponsor



Major Sponsor





Summer Reading Club is now on at the library right up until the 31st of January.

'Investigation' is the theme and registration is open to all Students from Preschool to High School age PLUS there are 8 ipods to be won as well. Everytime you return your books you receive an entry! How many books can you read over the holidays?

Come in and register at the Gundagai Library today to pick up your registration pack and get reading this summer for your chance to win.

Keep in mind the library Christmas Close Dates and make sure you have plenty of books to get you through the holiday period as we will be closing 5.00pm on the 20th December and reopening 9.00am 6th January.

Happy Summer Reading!

**"COME TRY DAY"**  
**18th January**

**BRING A FRIEND ALONG**

**Gundagai Swimming Pool**  
**2pm to 4pm**

**ALL NEW PLAYERS WELCOME**

**EARLY REGISTRATION**  
**AVAILABLE**

**NRL AMBASSADORS**

**LEAGUE TAG REPRESENTATIVE**

*Come meet your Coach  
for 2014*



**"GUNDAGAI ADELONG"**  
**JRL DINNER"**  
**With MC Ben Pollack**

**GUNDAGAI DISTRICT**

**SERVICES CLUB**

**6.30 PM UNTIL LATE**

**DINNER FROM**

**7.30 PM**

**\$25/PERSON DINNER & LIVE BAND**

**EVERYONE WELCOME TO COME  
ALONG FOR A GREAT NIGHT OUT.**

**NRL AMBASSADORS & PLAYERS  
WILL BE THERE.**

Tickets Available from  
Gundagai District Services  
Club

GV Bargains  
Adelong Services Club  
Group Bookings Welcome

# Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Everyone



## Dates to Remember for 2014

### Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> January

- Staff only return to school

### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January

- Years 7, 11 and 12 only return

### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January

- All remaining students return