



Friday, 21 June 2013

Gundagai High School
PO Box 107
157 Hanley Street
GUNDAGAI NSW 2722
Phone: 6944 1233
Fax: 6944 2180

Email:

gundagai-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Website:

www.gundagai-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Principal: Jennifer Miggins

DATES FROM THE CALENDAR:

Term 2

- ✓ **Tuesday 25th June**
Welfare Assembly 11.35am
- ✓ **Friday 28th June**
Last day of Term 2

Coming Up Next Term:

- ✓ **Monday 15th July**
Staff Development Day
- ✓ **Tuesday 16th July**
Students return
- ✓ **Friday 19 July**
CHS X-Country-Sydney
- ✓ **Tuesday 23rd July**
Parent/Teacher Interviews
- ✓ **Friday 26 July**
Regional Athletics-Albury
- ✓ **Friday 2 August**
School Photos
- ✓ **Tuesday 6 August**
YR 8 & 10 subject selection
evening General Assembly

Gundagai High School

NEWSLETTER

Principal's Message

WELFARE ASSEMBLY

At our Welfare Assembly on Tuesday 25th June, we will again recognise and celebrate the promotion of students within our school's positive Level System. We look forward to sharing the celebration with the many parents who will attend for morning tea and the assembly. Congratulations to all the students on their Level promotion!



At this assembly there will be the handover Induction Ceremony for the 2013-2014 School Captains and Senior Leadership Team. We look forward to these successful students' parents also joining us on this day.

Congratulations

- To all our Riverina Cross Country Carnival representatives, who performed so well last Friday, at the Showground and on the Gundagai Common.
- To our Riverina Cross Country Carnival Volunteers who did a fantastic job in making the event so successful.
- The P&C Members who worked tirelessly in the Canteen at the Carnival.



It is the work of all volunteers that have made this event such as success, and again Gundagai has been successful in securing it for 2014.

A big **THANK YOU!**

To those parents who have been able to help with transport for the HSC Study Days and other excursions. The School and the students are so very grateful for your time and support.



EXPLORE YOUR FUTURE - BEYOND THE LINE

Four University Students who are in Teacher Training have been at Gundagai High School for the last three days. The Beyond the Line – School Community Visits initiative encourages new graduates to apply for teaching appointments in rural communities. These teacher education students have been enthusiastic and have demonstrated their keenness to be involved in school life and to be involved in teaching and learning.



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

Strive to Serve

SCHOOL REPORTS

Student reports will be distributed on Thursday/ Friday of next week.

PARENT/TEACHER INTERVIEWS

These will be held **Week 2 of Term 3 on Tuesday 23rd July** in the MPC. Attached at the end of the newsletter is the Parent Interview Booking Sheet, please complete if interviews required and return it to school. A sheet informing you of your allotted times will then be sent home closer to the interview day. To assist with preparation, all bookings need to be finalised by Monday 22nd July.



Jennifer Miggins
Principal

Deputy Principal's News

The wonder of maths

Have you discovered TED talks? There are also some great ones especially for curious kids -like this one on "mathemagic". Using daring displays of algorithmic trickery, lightning calculator and number wizard Arthur Benjamin mesmerizes audiences with mathematical mystery and beauty

http://www.ted.com/talks/arthur_benjamin_does_mathemagic.html?source=facebook#.Ua6WsdqLHpR.facebook

How to parent your tween

Find out how to manage your tween's rapidly expanding list of needs and personal demands. It's that weird and wonderful time the experts say occurs between ages nine and 13, but which experience suggests can stretch out to anywhere between ages eight and 15.

Find out more: <http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/wellbeing/development/how-to-parent-your-tween>



Woolworths Earn and Learn has now ended for 2013 if you still have any stickers at home please send them in by the end of term as the school needs to tally these and submit them. By sending them in, the school will be able to get some great resources again.

To those parents who have already done so

**Thank
You!**

Simon Bridgeman
Deputy Principal

English Faculty News

Year 9 History

Congratulations to the following Year 9 History students for their empathy writing; Stacey Lewin, Max Murray, Jeana Bell, Kaila Young, Skye Anderson, Charlie Degotardi, Jack Jones and Jade Elliott. Their accuracy in conveying the experience of World War I soldiers either in Gallipoli or the Western Front through a letter to home was a pleasure to read and mark. You will be able to read two of these letters towards the end of the newsletter.

Casey Norden – Class Teacher



Education &
Communities

Riverina Cross Country Carnival

On Friday 14th June Gundagai High School hosted the Riverina Cross-Country Carnival. Over 400 competitors from across the Riverina competed on the course around the showground, north common and racecourse. This is the second year that Gundagai High has hosted the event, and again the carnival was a huge success due to the student volunteers from Gundagai High School. Over 80 students helped in the smooth running of the carnival by volunteering in the canteen, selling raffle tickets, finish line judges, recorders and on check points around the course. All of whom showed a willingness to help and make the carnival a positive experience for all in attendance.

Chaz Bishop, Rhys Murray, Harry McDonnell, Jock Lindley, Ellie Sheahan and Stephanie Cribb all ran in their respective age groups with some very notable efforts and results coming from the group. Stephanie was especially pleased with her efforts after coming second and qualifying for the State all schools carnival in Sydney next month.

Special thanks go to Graham Smith (Riverina Cross-Country Convenor) and Jason Wilesmith (Riverina Sports Association Coordinator) who were on hand all day Thursday setting up and also during the carnival on the Friday.

Special thanks also go to the Common Trust, Showground Society and Racecourse Committee who allowed the venue to be held in their areas and for the use of all the facilities.

Teachers from Gundagai High included Mr Hall who rode the course all day on his bike helping the students on check points and also runners in distress, Mr Chadwick who had his RFS cadets manning the roadways and keeping traffic informed of the conditions ahead, Miss Carr who helped supervise the students and answered many enquiries from the parents and students alike.

The canteen was once again organised by the Gundagai High School P&C committee and was a successful fundraising event.



Many parents were on hand to help serve the hungry and also with preparation of foods before the event even started.

It is a credit to the Gundagai community and spirit that so many of us can band together and run a successful event, bringing people from all over the region to our little town.

Thank you to everyone who was involved, without your help the visitors and competitors alike would not have enjoyed themselves as much and we would not have been asked to host the event again in 2014



Looking forward to working with you all again in 2014.

Simon Bridgeman
Carnival Coordinator



21st October 1914

Riverside
Nangus Road
Gundagai

Dear Mum and Dad

How have you been? How is the farm and the animals going?

I am fighting in The Western Front in France, about 450 miles from the Belgium coast line. We are fighting the Turks at moment. Here are my details.

108 Sargent Degotardi
A Squadron D Troop
6th Australian Diggers
8th Battalion.

The trenches here are very wet and muddy. They are dark and are really cold and smell awful. Nearly all the trenches are infested with rats that feed off dead bodies that lay on the ground.

One of the things we have to be careful of, besides getting shot, is letting our feet get wet for long periods of time. This causes a disease called Foot Rot. We call it Trench Foot because we are in the trenches all the time. Trench Foot causes your foot to rot from being constantly wet. If you get Trench Foot you can end up losing your foot in some cases.

I really miss your home cooked food and your baked lunches and homemade biscuits. The food we are getting over here is nothing compared to your food. We receive a tiny bit of butter and a small piece of bread twice a week. We also get a small bottle of scotch which helps to calm the nerves. We try and make this last as long as we can.

I am using a Lewis Gun but they just call it a Mounted Machine gun. It is extremely powerful and needs two people to operate it. The other

person that works it with me is a young lad called Harrison, he is from Wagga Wagga and is a good young lad. He has to feed the ammunition on a bullet chain through the breach on the chamber and make sure it does not get jammed or let it over heat. The water in the bag on the barrel must be kept full to prevent this from happening. We have become really good friends.

I have also met a lot of blokes from different parts of Australia and they are good genuine men.

Our uniform consists of a helmet, woollen pants, Long sleeve shirt, heavy woollen jumper called a tunic, breeches to hold our pants up, leather belt with pouches to hold ammunition, field dressings, water and a rifle cleaning kit. Our boots are full lace up leather to help keep our feet dry, warm and protected.

We had a cease fire the other day which means that both sides stop firing and we all go and pick up the deceased bodies and take them back over the trenches to be identified. Most of the bodies are blown apart or have just been mangled from being shot. The bodies are identified from the dog tags that they wear around their neck, this has their name and identification number on it.

Some of the soldiers are so scared and are finding it hard to adapt to the conditions and the way of life in the trenches. There have been soldiers that have taken their own lives by putting themselves in the firing line.

That's all I have got time for now, and hope this letter finds you well. I miss you all and will return soon.

Love your son Charlie Degotardi

PS. Look after my horse and keep him well fed.

Sir Edward Anderson, Troop 342.

Gallipoli Campaign, Turkey, Europe

October 26th 1915,

Sir George Joseph Anderson,

Australia, NSW, 2722, Gundagai

156 Western Avenue.

To my Dearest Mother and Father,

The unforgettable day we arrived at the Gallipoli Peninsula, Turkey, when we come close to the shore, the sound of flying bullets, whistling through the air, then the distressing sound of the thud when it would capture a young man's life, with the followed splash of him collapsing in the water and the explosion of blood around him like a red cloud drifting through the sky. The cries of men, screaming and yelling in drastic pain with haunt me for the rest of my number days.

After I ran through a sea of blood and dead motionless bodies, as I stand against a wall of vines, rocks and sand, I look back to see the hundreds of soldiers laying their motionless with still the emotion of fear on their face, but dead. So many young, courageous chaps defending our country, taken from us within a matter of minutes. At this stage, I have to admit mother and father; I could have gone for a hug at this time, to give me a sense of comfort and safety. We could not stand there all day tho, one fine fellow said "We can't just stand here and wonder what we could of done to save these young men's lives, what don is done, we need to build our selves some trenches me lads", and at that we got to work, this would be the beginning of the next seven nerve racking months of my whole life.

We dug and dug for days on end, we lost a few men that were stupid enough to poke their heads up to get a view of the opposition's where-about. The Turks new what they were doing, and this frightened the living daylights out of me. Our first plan was unsuccessful as we landed in the wrong position, so I didn't know, or how did anyone know whether our following plans were going to work. To their advantage they have the higher ground, so we are like mice in a cage, and if we try to escape, bang and your gone.

The Turks also have heavier artillery. Some of the weapons that are being used over no man's land at the moment are the Lewis gun, .303 Enfield rifles, .455 Wembley revolvers, Vickers Heavy Machine Gun, Short Range Trench Mortars and a few grenades here and there. These are my favourite artillery father, and when I get home I'm sure that I'm going to be the best at hunting for sure, the best in the town. I have been here so long, I can tell what type of when the enemy is using by the sound the bullet makes as it flies past me. I have adapted to my surroundings and this discomforts me as I can't remember the sound of children's laughter or the sound of birds tweeting in the trees, all happiness is gone.

I'm definitely missing your home cooked meals mother, the biscuits here are rock chewer's. Our rations are terrible; you don't get a lot of food for the whole week, it's certainly not like home where I can help myself to some of your delicious cakes and desserts mother. Lard, jam, potatoes, cheese, biscuits, ham and bacon, this is what I have been living on for the last seven or so months. I'm not one to complain, but the same food gets boring after a while.

For the first wash for a week I go down to the Water Hole, which is always covered by Turkish snipers. It is safer in the trenches than here, all around this spot are dead and wounded who have been hit when dodging round this corner; however, one must drink, even if the price be Death. Also with the lack of water supplied in my ration pack, it's difficult to freshen' up by having a shave, but I suppose I have to look my best for the nurses if I need medical help.

Our uniforms are very presentable, but do not consider the job we have to do. They get wet, then cold and you freeze. You could stay like this for ages if the rain keeps up as we don't get a new change of clothes too often. Our boots we are given are quite handy, as they go up to your leg just bellows your knees, but they are not fully water-proof and if you get water in them, that's the end of you.

Trench foot is very common in our trenches. Trench foot is a very painful disease, it is where your feet have been sitting in water for too long and your feet swell up two to three times their normal size. There is no feeling in your feet, and if the swelling does not decrease, you are likely to get your feet or feet and legs amputated. Sometimes the swelling does go down, but then comes the intolerable, indescribable agony. When I lay in bed I have heard men cry and even scream with all the pain they are in. It is very disturbing as they yell and screams echo through-out the trenches. We have placed duckboards down to try and prevent this disease, but sometimes it cannot be prevented in the position you are placed, and mother and father let me tell you, I am very lucky in my position that I have not gone through trench foot.

Dysentery is also very common due to the lack of hygiene as we only have a hole in the ground or if we are lucky a bucket to do our business in. The smell is un-describable; it wafts through-out the trenches making our time here even more disgusting. I have had dysentery for 3 weeks now and I have never ever had diarrhoea like this so bad in my whole life. Cleanliness is just not a word used in these trenches.



The Turks have started to fire again, I must be off. I will write to in my spare time mother and father, and please do keep me updated with the chaps at home.

Much Love, Edward George.

Too sick for school?



Generally if your child feels unwell, keep them home from school and consult your doctor. This chart and the information it contains is not intended to take the place of a consultation with your doctor.

Bronchitis	Symptoms are coughing, a runny nose, sore throat and mild fever. The cough is often dry at first, becoming moist after a couple of days. There may be a slight wheeze and shortness of breath. A higher fever (typically above 39°C) may indicate pneumonia.	 ... until they are feeling better. Antibiotics may be needed.
Chickenpox (Varicella)	Slight fever, runny nose, and a rash that begins as raised pink spots that blister and scab.	 ... for 5 days from the onset of the rash and the blisters have dried.
Conjunctivitis	The eye feels 'scratchy', is red and may water. Lids may stick together on waking.	 ... while there is discharge from the eye unless a doctor has diagnosed a non-infectious cause.
Diarrhoea (no organism identified)	Two or more consecutive bowel motions that are looser and more frequent than normal and possibly stomach cramps.	 ... for at least 24 hours after diarrhoea stops.
Fever	A temperature of 38.5°C or more in older infants and children.	 ... until temperature is normal.
Gastroenteritis	A combination of frequent loose or watery stools (diarrhoea), vomiting, fever, stomach cramps, headaches.	 ... for at least 24 hours after diarrhoea and/or vomiting stops.
German measles (Rubella)	Often mild or no symptoms: mild fever, runny nose, swollen nodes, pink blotchy rash that lasts a short time.	 ... for at least 4 days after the rash appears.
Glandular Fever (Mononucleosis, EBV infection)	Symptoms include fever, headache, sore throat, tiredness, swollen nodes.	 ... unless they're feeling unwell.
Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)	Generally a mild illness caused by a virus, perhaps with a fever, blisters around the mouth, on the hands and feet, and perhaps the nappy area in babies.	 ... until all blisters have dried.
Hayfever (Allergic rhinitis) caused by allergy to pollen (from grasses, flowers and trees), dust mites, animal fur or hair, mould spores, cigarette smoke	Sneezing, a blocked or runny nose (rhinitis), itchy eyes, nose and throat, headaches.	 ... unless they feel unwell or are taking a medication which makes them sleepy.
Head lice or nits* (Pediculosis)	Itchy scalp, white specks stuck near the base of the hairs; lice may be found on the scalp.	 ... while continuing to treat head lice each night. Tell the school.

Hepatitis A	Often none in young children; sudden onset of fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine, pale stools.	 ... for 2 weeks after first symptoms (or 1 week after onset of jaundice). Contact your doctor before returning to school.
Hepatitis B	Often no symptoms in young children. When they do occur, they can include fever, loss of appetite, nausea, vomiting, jaundice (yellowing of skin and eyes), dark urine.	<div>  ... if they have symptoms. Contact your doctor before returning to school. </div> <div>  ... if they have a chronic infection (not the first outbreak) and no symptoms. </div>
Impetigo (School sores)	Small red spots change into blisters that fill up with pus and become crusted; usually on the face, hands or scalp.	 ... until antibiotic treatment starts. Sores should be covered with watertight dressings.
Influenza	Sudden onset fever, runny nose, sore throat, cough, muscle aches and headaches.	 ... until well.
Measles	Fever, tiredness, runny nose, cough and sore red eyes for a few days followed by a red blotchy rash that starts on the face and spreads down the body and lasts 4 to 7 days.	 ... for at least 4 days after the rash appears.
Meningococcal Disease	Sudden onset of fever and a combination of headache, neck, stiffness, nausea, vomiting, drowsiness or rash.	Seek medical attention immediately. Patient will need hospital treatment. Close contacts receive antibiotics.
Molluscum Contagiosum	Multiple small lumps (2–5mm) on the skin that are smooth, firm and round, with dimples in the middle. In children, occur mostly on the face, trunk, upper arms and legs. Symptoms can last 6 months to 2 years.	
Mumps	Fever, swollen and tender glands around the jaw.	 ... for 9 days after onset of swelling.
Ringworm* (tinea corporis)	Small scaly patch on the skin surrounded by a pink ring.	 ... for 24 hours after fungal treatment has begun.
Runny nose or common cold		 ... unless there are other symptoms such as fever, sore throat, cough, rash or headache. Check with school.
Scabies*	Itchy skin, worse at night. Worse around wrists, armpits, buttocks, groin and between fingers and toes.	 ... until 24 hours after treatment has begun.
Shigella	Diarrhoea (which may contain blood, mucus and pus), fever, stomach cramps, nausea and vomiting.	 ... until there has not been a loose bowel motion for 24 hours. Antibiotics may be needed.
Slapped Cheek Syndrome (Parvovirus B19 infection, fifth disease, erythema infectiosum)	Mild fever, red cheeks, itchy lace-like rash, and possibly cough, sore throat or runny nose.	 ... as it is most infectious before the rash appears.
Whooping Cough (Pertussis)	Starts with a running nose, followed by persistent cough that comes in bouts. Bouts maybe followed by vomiting and a whooping sound as the child gasps for air.	 ... until the first 5 days of an antibiotic course has been completed. Unimmunised siblings may need to stay home too until treated with an antibiotic.
Worms (Threadworms, pinworms)	The main sign of threadworms is an itchy bottom. Sometimes children feel 'out of sorts' and do not want to eat much. They may also have trouble sleeping, due to itching at night.	 ... and tell the school as other parents will need to know to check their kids.

***It is important that the rest of the family is checked for head lice, scabies and ringworm**

COMMUNITY NEWS

SchoolKids Bonus

Need a boost to your mid-year school budget?

The second payment of the Schoolkids Bonus is coming in July. If you are eligible you could receive up to \$205 for each primary student and up to \$410 for each secondary student.

You could receive the Schoolkids Bonus if you have a child in primary or secondary school and receive Family Tax Benefit Part A or you are a primary or secondary student receiving an income support payment.

If you think you are eligible and you haven't already updated your child's education details with Centrelink, then visit Online Services by 29 June 2013 to ensure you receive the correct amount and are paid on time.

The Schoolkids Bonus replaced the Education Tax Refund in January 2013 so eligible families **cannot** claim education expenses in their 2012-13 income tax return.

To ensure you receive the Schoolkids Bonus payment in July, check your eligibility by visiting australia.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus

Gundagai/Adelong Junior Rugby League

Team Photos will be taken by MSP Photography on **Saturday 29th of June** at Anzac Park, Gundagai. Cost of the photos are \$15.00 each. Envelopes will be handed out at Football Training by your coach and must be returned prior to 29th of June with correct money. Envelopes can be returned to your coach or Jacki Fairall. Payment can also be made on the morning of Team Photos. No Money, No Photo

Gundagai High School

157 Hanley Street

PO Box 107 Gundagai NSW 2722

Phone: 02 6944 1233

Facsimile: 02 6944 2180

Email: gundagai-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au



Principal: Jennifer Miggins (M.Ed. Admin. M.A.C.E.L.)

20 June 2013

Dear Parent/Carer

You are invited to attend a Parent/Teacher interview evening which will be held Term 3, Tuesday, 23rd July 2013 in the **MPC** between **4.00pm** and **7.00pm** for Years 7 – 12.

This is a valuable opportunity for parents and the school to develop a plan of support for your child's academic success through a positive partnership.

The designated Parent/Teacher interview evening enables parents to speak with several, or all, of their child's teachers on the one occasion. Please bring a copy of your child's most recent report.

If you would like interviews with your son or daughter's subject teachers, please ask them to bring the attached booking sheet to the front office to arrange appointment times. Alternatively, please phone the school on 6944 1233 to make your bookings. To assist with preparations, all bookings need to be finalised by **Monday 22nd July 2013.**

Please indicate your preferred time range for interviews on the attached booking sheet so that the most suitable appointments may be made. Appointments will be made in order of request, so prior bookings with teachers may mean that you have to extend your preferred time range. Please avoid disappointment and book early.

If you are unable to attend on this night, alternative arrangements may be made by contacting the school office. Gundagai High School always encourages parents/carers to contact the school at any time.

Yours sincerely

Jennifer Miggins
Principal

10 minute interview

Year: _____

Most Suitable time Period:_____

[illegible]