GUNDAGAI HIGH

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 7 September 2015

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the final edition of our Gundagai High School newsletter for Term 3! It has been another very busy term, full of learning opportunities both in the classroom and beyond it.

Year 12 Farewell Assembly

As we commence the final two weeks of term, the countdown is on for our Year 12 students as they make their final study preparations with their teachers to ensure they remain focussed on the upcoming HSC examinations. Our Year 12 Farewell Assembly is taking place on Friday 18 September, the last day of term 3. All of our parents/carers are invited to attend so we may celebrate, as a strong school community, the many fine achievements of our students and wish them well as they embark on the next phase of their life.

Reminder: *Partners in Learning* parent feedback survey

A reminder that the current parent/carer survey closes on 16 October. Please complete the survey which can be accessed via the following direct link:
https://nsw.tellthemfromme.com/j_acegi_security_check?j_username=parent12654&j_password=Gun8442
The link will open directly to the 'Begin Survey' page of the parent/carer survey and no login details will be required. Please feel free to contact the school if you are experiencing any difficulties accessing the survey.

Keeping students safe online

Cybersafety is an ongoing issue for schools, as well as parents/carers. As more and more students create profiles on social media, it is important to ensure that we do all we can to keep them safe while they are online.

UPCOMING EVENTS

9-11 September	Principal Leadership event in MPC
10 September	Year 7 Immunisations
11 September	Yr 8 Geography Excursion to Wee Jasper
15 September	Ladies Craft in Needlework Room
17 September	Variety Night – start time 7pm
18 September	Year 12 Farewell Assembly – start time 10.15am in MPC
18 September	Last day Term 3
19-24 September	Cattle Parading Melbourne Show
25 September	Youth Council Disco in MPC
28 Sept –1 October	RFS Cadets National Titles
6 October	Term 4 Staff and Students return to school
12 October	Year 12 HSC Exams start
9 November	Yr 12 Dinner

Here are some cybersafety tips every parent/carer should know - consider these precautions:

1	Nothing replaces parental supervision and education for kids about cybersafety.
2	Set a technology curfew.
3	Remind your child to never give out identifying information such as your home address, school name or telephone number in a public message such as chat or newsgroups.
4	If your child posts photos online, use privacy settings to limit access to people they know well.
5	Remind your child that people don't always tell the truth online, and they can't take anything at face value.
6	Reassure your child that they can tell you anything, without fear of losing the laptop or internet access.
7	If they get a message or email that's threatening or rude, they should 'STOP, BLOCK, TELL'. First step is to tell your child to stop responding to the abuse and then block those people sending threatening or rude messages if they continue. Let your child know that if they are being bullied, or know someone else who is, they should tell a trusted adult.
8	Never click on any links that are contained in emails from people they don't know.
9	If you suspect your child has been contacted by a predator, try to save a copy of the chat log (or whatever form the contact takes) for evidence. Call Crime Stoppers 24-hour line 1800 333 000 to make a formal complaint.
10	Your child will be using computers and the technology for the rest of their lives – you're in the great position of being able to get them off to a safe, positive start.

Road Safety Reminder
With the school holidays approaching, daily routines will soon change. Different play locations and holiday destinations means different traffic environments.

So to help keep our children safe, families are reminded about these key road safety points:

- Stop, look, listen, think every time you cross the road.

- It's the law that everyone wears a helmet when riding a bike in a public place.

It makes sense to wear a helmet when riding scooters and skateboards too!

- Click clack front 'n back every person for every trip.

Everyone in the car must be securely buckled up in the right seatbelt or child restraint.

- Talk to your child about being a safe road user.

Reinforce safe road behaviours by being a good role model! Children learn safe road behaviours from the adults who care for them. Talk about what you are doing to be safe when near roads, in the car and when riding.

- Point out road safety differences and dangers in new environments.

This is especially important when on holidays in different surroundings. Roads, footpaths, parks, carparks, bike tracks and bike lanes may look different in holiday areas.
The best way to keep your child safe is to actively supervise them.
Talk and teach your child about road safety every time you are out an about.
Remind other adults who care for your children to do this too.

I would like to wish all of our students and staff a very happy and safe holiday! May you enjoy the warmer weather and take time to relax with your family and friends.

Mrs Adelia Fuller
Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Teacher Training and Development

During the past few weeks GHS Staff have been involved in the following training and development;

1. NSW Deputy Principals conference
2. Habits of Highly Effective Teachers
3. VET Training
4. Learning Difference Convention
5. Primary School visits
6. Financial Literacy and Consultative Decision Making
7. A Learning and Response Matrix (ALARM) training
8. Water Safety Training

School Uniform

With warmer weather approaching, I encourage all families to start planning for the summer school uniform changeover to ensure all GHS students wear full school uniform. Orders can be made via 'LOWES' web page or you can visit the Wagga store which has plenty of stock available. We are also hoping that the LOWES store can visit Gundagai in the near future with stock for families to purchase during a school day.

Deputy Principals Conference

During week 7, I had the pleasure of meeting with over 400 Deputy Principals from across the state at the NSW Deputy Principals conference. Over three days, the conference covered many current and future topics for teaching, education, the latest innovations in technology, research and trends in society.

The time spent with my Riverina colleagues and Deputy Principals from across NSW was an invaluable experience. My knowledge of new strategies and resources has been disseminated to GHS staff, with some ideas currently being introduced as part of our everyday practice.

Variety Night

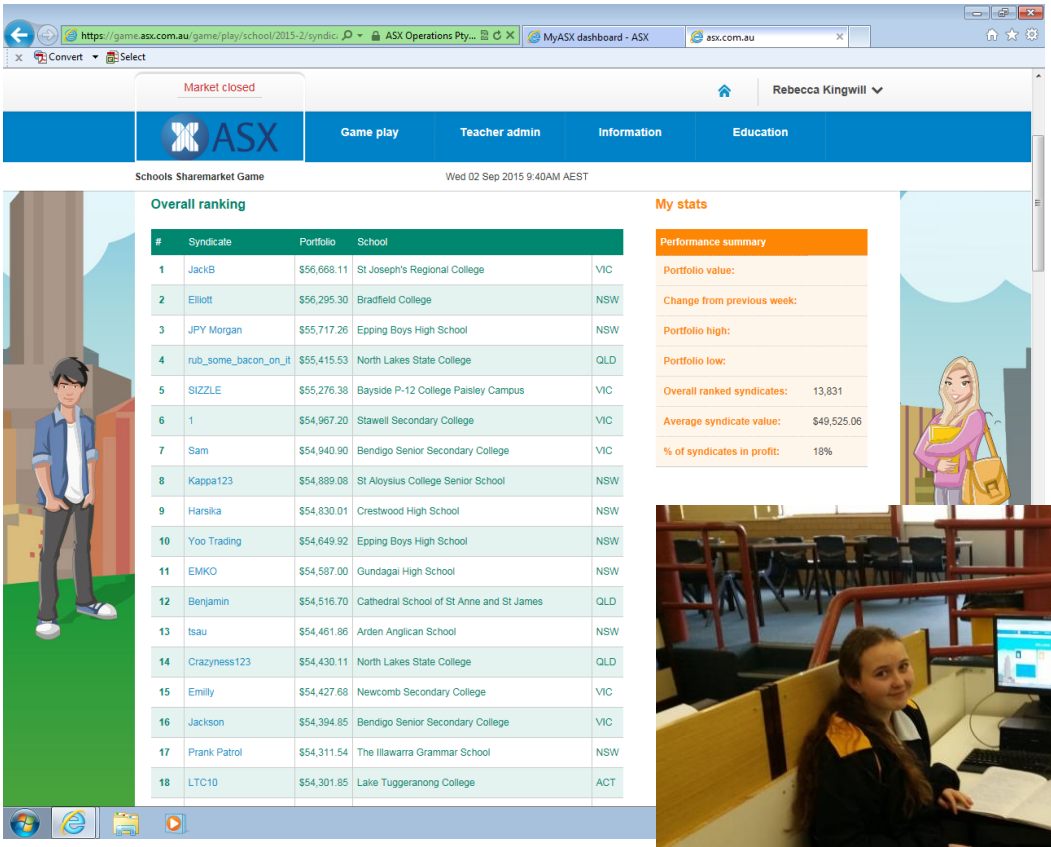
Don't forget to attend our Variety Night on Thursday 17 September 2015 at 7pm.
See poster at the end of the newsletter.

Mr Simon Bridgeman
Deputy Principal

ENGLISH/HSIE

9/10 Commerce ASX Share Market Game

Year 9 and 10 Commerce are currently participating in the Australian Stock Exchange Schools Sharemarket Game. Each participant or syndicate of students gets a virtual $50 000 to invest in a simulated version of the Australian Stock Exchange. Two of our class members are currently doing extremely well ranking 35 out of 10869 participants, proving that they are savvy investors.



#	Syndicate	Portfolio	School	
1	JackB	$56,668.11	St Joseph's Regional College	VIC
2	Elliott	$56,295.30	Bradfield College	NSW
3	JPY Morgan	$55,717.26	Epping Boys High School	NSW
4	rub_some_bacon_on_it	$55,415.53	North Lakes State College	QLD
5	SIZZLE	$55,276.38	Bayside P-12 College Paisley Campus	VIC
6	1	$54,967.20	Stawell Secondary College	VIC
7	Sam	$54,940.90	Bendigo Senior Secondary College	VIC
8	Kappa123	$54,889.08	St Aloysius College Senior School	NSW
9	Harsika	$54,830.01	Crestwood High School	NSW
10	Yoo Trading	$54,649.92	Epping Boys High School	NSW
11	EMKO	$54,587.00	Gundagai High School	NSW
12	Benjamin	$54,516.70	Cathedral School of St Anne and St James	QLD
13	tsau	$54,461.86	Arden Anglican School	NSW
14	Crazyness123	$54,430.11	North Lakes State College	QLD
15	Emilly	$54,427.68	Newcomb Secondary College	VIC
16	Jackson	$54,394.85	Bendigo Senior Secondary College	VIC
17	Prank Patrol	$54,311.54	The Illawarra Grammar School	NSW
18	LTC10	$54,301.85	Lake Tuggeranong College	ACT

11 Legal Studies Court House Excursion

On Monday 3 August the Year 11 Legal Studies class went to the Gundagai Local Court House to watch court in session. The students sat in the gallery and viewed hearings, getting an insight into what the Magistrate, Prosecutor, Court Officer, Court Monitor, Witnesses and the Accused do in court. We saw some sentences being handed down and were able to ask the court monitor some questions in the break. This enabled the students to link the theory that we have been learning in class with what actually happens in “real life” and the role of individuals in relation to the law.

Year 7 Book Review

Parvana- By Deborah Ellis

Parvana lives in a small unit of a bombed out building at Kabul, Afghanistan. She lives in the unit with 6 other people. The Taliban forbid women to go outside without wearing a burqa and accompanied by a male at all times. Parvana's father needs help to move around and at the market while selling some of their possessions and reading letters for people. But when her father is hauled off to jail Parvana and her family are left to fend for themselves. Parvana has to dress as a boy to make a living in the marketplace to provide food for her family in a hostile environment.

Parvana and her family overcome many challenges along the way when trying to survive on virtually nothing. Parvana shows resilience while having to wear her dead brothers' clothes to fend for her family, leading a girl with no burqa through the streets after curfew ,running from Taliban soldiers, lying to her own family and doing a lot of tough work, usually meant for men.

I like this book because you never know what is going to happen and it left me begging for more and hopefully you too. My only criticism is that the book needs a sequel. It ends with questions that **need** to be answered! This book shows the troubles of being a girl in Afghanistan. Parvana faces fear and stressful times but she pulls through in the toughest times. This book is aimed at 13-15 year olds but I guarantee that adults would find Parvana a good read too. I score Parvana 5/5 stars.

Reviewed by Bradley Luff
7A English

HISTORY

Year 10 History students have completed their Popular Culture PowerPoint task with excellent results. The task required students to compare a historical music figure with a current music artist. The students had fabulous ideas with some thoughtful comparisons between Elvis Presley amd Justin Beiber, The Beatles and One Direction, Bob Dylan and Taylor Swift and Tina Turner and Beyonce. Students receiving scores in the A and B range were Rachel Stuckey, Samantha Gradon, Ali McGuire, Ella Manton and Matthew Peterson. A special mention must also go to Ricky Wheeler and Ali McGuire for incorporating music into their PowerPoint. These two students demonstrated great computing skills. Mrs Norden and Mr Morton were very pleased to receive a History assessment from every Year 10 student by the due date. This is a great achievement demonstrating excellent time management skills.

MELBOURNE SHOW

Preparations for the Melbourne Show are now well underway and the animals are coming along and parading nicely. The students from years 7 – 10 have been busy at lunchtimes and after school in an attempt to ensure the steers are prepared for the show on Monday 21 September.

There are 6 steers and 1 heifer being prepared, Ab (Angus from Abingdon Station), Dozer (Bongongo Bull x GHS Angus Cow), Meerkat (heifer) (Bongongo Bull x Charolais),
Humu (Drumard Partnership, Humula Angus), Burry (Drumard Partnership Humula Angus) and GT (Angus x Belted Galloway).

Jamie and David Elworthy have continued to provide the hay for the ration and I am very appreciative of their support. I am also very grateful to Abingdon Station who have donated a steer again and Craig Thomas from Drumard Partnership Humula, who has joined our program again for 2015 by donating 2 steers.

The students will be heading to Melbourne on Sunday 20 September and will return on Thursday 24 September. The parader competition will be conducted on the Monday whilst the steers will be shown on Tuesday. The students spend Wednesday looking around the sights of Melbourne which includes the matinee stage performance of The Lion King. Mrs Sandy Daley will accompany the team to Melbourne to assist with supervision which I very much appreciate.

Mr Dale Chadwick
Agriculture Teacher

COMMUNITY NEWS

Netball Presentation

Thursday 10 September

New netball courts

BBQ from 4pm

Presentation approx 5.15pm

The courts will be officially opened by Mayor Cr. Abb McAlister.

157 Hanley St GUNDAGAI Ph: 02 6944 1233 Email: gundagai-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

SPRING HOLIDAY CAMPS

DON'T MISS OUT

✔ New friendships ✔ Fun
✔ Great value ✔ Safe

Our popular Spring Kids' and Family Holiday Camps are filling fast. Find out what's on including our popular Cooking 4 Kids, Adventurer, Kids' Club and Duke of Edinburgh camps plus lots more.

Led by qualified instructors, you can rest easy knowing your kids are in safe hands. Our Kids' Camps are suitable for kids aged 7 and over and range from 1 to 5 days.

Residential Kids' Camps include:
- 24 hour supervision
- Instructor led activities
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Supervised transport

Family Camps include:
- Instructor led activities
- Meals
- Accommodation
- Use of all facilites i.e. BBQ area, pool, tennis courts etc.

sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/familycamps
sportandrecreation.nsw.gov.au/kidscamps
fb.com/nswsportandrecreation 13 13 02

NSW GOVERNMENT | Office of Sport Sport & Recreation

Gundagai Youth Council

2015 Sept School Holidays

GYC

Friday 25th September

DJ WELLA GYC DANCE PARTY
All High School Students - 7:00pm to 11:00pm
Cost $5.00 - Snack and Drinks available.
Another big night planned for our GYC DANCE PARTY on Friday the 25th at the High School MPC !!
Firing up the night once again is the one and only DJ WELLA with all his latest sets!
Book the date now for a great night and support GYC

.....

Friday 25th September

LAN GAMING TOURNAMENT 9:00am-11:00pm
Prizes for 1st, 2nd & 3rd $30.00 registration
Registration forms are available from the High School and Mirrabooka.
Forms to be returned by 5.00pm on 17/09/15
Games on the program: Team Fortress 2, Counter-strike Source, Halo, COD 4 and Mount and Blade

.....

Friday 25th September

FELTING WORKSHOP - Cost $10.00
Includes a 2 hour workshop for one child (over 8) and one adult (working as a team)
Participants learn how to make a fabulous felt bowl & create their own to take home.
Enquiries and bookings can be made at the library.

.....

Sunday 27th September

BUBBLE SOCCER
$10.00 per player or $50.00 per team of 6
12:00am to 4:00pm For ages 10 and over
Organise your friends, put a team together or join a team on the day.
$10.00 per player or $50.00 per team
Championship Bubble Soccer Trophy to be won!

For more information on any of the above check out the Gundagai youth Council facebook page or call 0269440200 ext 4

Spring, Hay Fever and Students with Asthma

Spring is just around the corner, which means warmer weather longer days and increased pollen. For many people in Australia with asthma or hay fever, August to March (or the dry season in tropical areas) is a particularly difficult time. This is when an increased amount of pollen is in the air, which may trigger an asthma flare-up making life pretty uncomfortable.

Tell-tale symptoms of hay fever are sneezing, an itchy nose with a clear watery drip, nasal congestion, an itchy throat and itchy watery eyes.

Hay fever may be seasonal but symptoms can be present year-round, with triggers being similar to asthma. Seasonal triggers include pollens from grasses, weeds and trees, and moulds. However hay fever can be triggered by other allergic factors too, such as house dust mites, pet allergens, cockroaches, cold air and strong odours and/or tobacco smoke.

While hay fever and allergies are unpleasant enough for anyone, they post a serious threat to people with asthma because they can trigger an asthma flare-up or even an attack. This is why treatment of hay fever needs to be part of every persons asthma care, including students in your school. Studies have shown that treating hay fever symptoms can reduce emergency department visits and hospitalisations due to asthma.

If hay fever is causing a child problems, they should see their doctor to make sure their asthma is well controlled and that they are taking the right medications for both conditions. This will reduce the chance that they will have a reaction to pollen. If a student continues to have problems, the following tips may help to ensure you are all prepared this spring.

Take medications regularly

Encourage parents to ensure their child is taking their preventer medication every day to stop asthma symptoms flaring up at school during high-risk days. Be especially careful to keep all students' reliever medication close at hand on windy days or during and after thunder or dust storms, and make sure the child uses is as soon as they get symptoms.

It is advised not to send students who may be experiencing as asthma flare-up to the front office for medication. Anyone experiencing breathing difficulties should have medication brought to them.

Postpone outdoor exercise

When you exercise you breathe faster and through your mouth, which cuts out the normal warming, moisturising and filtering action of the nose. Postponing a child's outdoor exercise or sport on high pollen days may help to reduce the likelihood of a flare up.

Stay indoors on very high pollen days

When possible, when there's lots of pollen in the air, keep students indoors using your air conditioner to filter and circulate the air in the classroom. Don't open your windows or you will let the pollens or pollution inside to settle throughout the room.

Take a look around your school grounds

Check the plants growing around classrooms and playing fields. There might be something there that is aggravating your student's asthma or hay fever. Also think about the activities you are doing around the school that may increase a student's exposure to pollens, such as mowing the grass.

Shower in the evening

On very high pollen days, showering and washing hair in the evening can help to keep pollens from rubbing off onto bedding where it could trigger a child's asthma throughout the night. It may also help students to shower after outdoor activities when there are particularly high levels of pollen.

Need more help?

If you would like further support with managing students asthma during the high pollen season please ask your pharmacist, doctor, or contact the Asthma InfoLine on 1800 ASTHMA (1800 278 462).

Gundagai High School
Presents

Variety Night

That's right, Variety night is on again and it will be the best one yet!

Classic Hits!

Start: 7pm
Date: 17 September 2015
Gundagai High MPC

Canteen available throughout the night
$5 per person or $10 per family

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: _____/____/____

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: _____/____/____

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: _____/____/____

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: _____/____/____