



# GUNDAGAI HIGH

Thursday, 14 December 2017

## STOP PRESS - COMING EVENTS

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our final newsletter for 2017! As this school year quickly comes to an end, we look back on the last couple of weeks and the various events that have taken place.

Our **Year 6 Parent/Carer Information evening** took place on Monday 4 December in our MPC.

Over 70% of Year 6 students and their families attended the evening to hear more about our wonderful school and receive an information pack containing important handouts to assist with a smooth start to the 2018 school year for our Year 6 students. A reminder that the first day for Year 7 in 2018 is Tuesday 30 January.



Our **Year 6 Orientation Day** on Tuesday 5 December was superb, with all students rating the day as excellent, having enjoyed all the activities we organised, in particular the cooking and wood work lessons. A big thank you to Mr Hoang, for organising the day, to the canteen for the day's catering, and to our teachers for engaging our Year 6 students in interesting lessons in preparation for their Year 7 start next year.

I enjoyed attending the Annual Awards Night for both Gundagai PS and Gundagai South PS earlier this week. It was wonderful to see so many high achievers be recognised for their learning throughout the year.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming our new Year 7 students very soon at our school.



I also enjoyed our own Presentation Day ceremony which was held on Friday 8 December. It was wonderful to celebrate the achievements of all of our students in their academic, sporting, performing arts and cultural successes. Thank you to all the families, friends and community members who joined us to recognise the wonderful efforts of so many of our students. Thank you also to all the staff who assisted in making the event a fantastic one.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very relaxing time over the festive season. Thank you for your continued support throughout 2017. We are looking forward to another exciting and productive year in 2018.

Mrs A Fuller



## FINAL CORRESPONDENCE

A reminder to parents/carers that if your child has been absent from school over the last week, we have posted the semester 2 report home so you should receive it very soon.



Also, we have posted our final batch of attendance letters home so if you receive one, could you please fill in the second page and return it to school next year.



## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2017

### DECEMBER

<b>Thursday 14</b>	• HSC results released at 6am
<b>Friday 15</b>	• Last day for students and most staff
<b>Tuesday 19</b>	• School closes at 3.30pm for 2017

## SCHOOL CALENDAR 2018

### JANUARY

<b>Monday 29</b>	• Staff return
<b>Tuesday 30</b>	• Years 7,11 & 12 return
<b>Wednesday 31</b>	• Years 8, 9 & 10 return

## UKULELE PERFORMANCE AT URALBA

On Wednesday afternoon the GHS ukulele ensemble entertained the residents of Uralba in a Christmas singalong. The residents were very appreciative of the skill level the students displayed during the afternoon. They enjoyed the chance to sing their favourite Christmas carols. Students were impressed with the knowledge and quality of the residents' voices. Students also enjoyed the chance to perform. The ensemble was asked to return for an ongoing concert series.

I would like to thank the following students for lending their talents to this event:

Emily McDonald, Gabrielle Butcher, Chanise Denning, Lillian Crane, Bridie Ingold and Alyssa Monte.

Miss C Nash  
Music teacher





## WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 10 have recently completed their second Work Experience week. Students gained wonderful industry experience with the variety in placements noteworthy. Based in Gundagai and surrounding towns, students' placements included education, building and construction, veterinarian, metal fabrication, aged care, physiotherapy, agribusiness, mechanic, livestock transport, electrician and plumbing. Students are to be congratulated for utilising the work experience week and allowing themselves to broaden their knowledge and develop industry skills.

Thank you to the work experience hosts for providing such a wonderful opportunity for our students and supporting them in their post-school planning.







Dear Parent

This is a reminder regarding the School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) and students progressing from year 2 to 3 and year 6 to 7.

**We have made some improvements to our system which now means that students who are progressing to year 3 and year 7 do not need to reapply if they meet the following three conditions:**

- are continuing at the same school
- are residing at the same address
- have not been sent an expiry notification from Transport for NSW.

The system has automatically validated a student's ongoing eligibility if they're at the same school and progressing to year 3 and year 7. Where a student met the new eligibility the system has updated their entitlement and card. If they didn't meet the new eligibility, they would have been sent an expiry notification.

If students need to update any information or reapply, they should go online to <https://apps.transport.nsw.gov.au/ssts/updateDetails>.

Applications need to be submitted before 31 December 2017 to ensure students' entitlements are updated and their current card is not cancelled. If their application is submitted after 31 December 2017, the system will automatically cancel their card and a new one will need to be issued.

Students in the Opal network applying for an SSTS or Term Bus Pass entitlement for the first time will receive their card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of January 2018.

**Students residing in Rural and Regional (R&R) areas** should receive their new travel pass at the commencement of the new school year in 2018. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes. Students should check with their operator for more information.

#### **Concessions**

131 500



Use public transport... plan your trip at [transportnsw.info](http://transportnsw.info)  
Get on board with Opal at [opal.com.au](http://opal.com.au)

## Ten Tips for Parents of Children Starting School

1. **Provide information about your child's immunisation status**

Your child will be coming into contact with lots of other children and infections can spread very easily. Immunisation records need to be presented for Kindergarten enrolment.

Under the Public Health (Amendment) Act 1992, children who have not been immunised may be sent home during an outbreak of a vaccine-preventable disease.

2. **Learn the names of the important people at the school**

Learning the names of staff will help you communicate with your child about their day at school. It is also important that you have a relationship with your child's teacher and principal to ensure you are up to date with your child's progress.

3. **Give all information about your child to the school especially medical and special needs**

You know your child best. Your child's kindergarten teacher will have many students to get to know. Help the teacher understand your child better and faster by sharing information and insights. This will also ensure that your child gets any essential attention.

4. **Provide emergency contact numbers**

The school might need to contact you urgently. Provide alternative numbers and contacts in case the school is unable to reach you.

5. **Make the school aware of any special family circumstances**

Any changes to your child's family situation can impact on their emotional and academic well-being. Inform your child's teacher and principal about any changed circumstances so that the child can be supported if necessary. Examples of special circumstances include the birth of a sibling, divorce or the death of a loved one.

6. **Establish routines with your child and stick to them**

Prepare your child for a more structured day. Make a daily routine that includes mealtime, talking time, and reading time.

7. **Make sure your child is road/travel safe**

Children should know to cross the road only at marked crossings. Please set a good example. Take particular care when you drop off and collect your child from school.

8. **Become familiar with school activities - develop a relationship with the school**

Parents/caregivers set an example. If you are positive and encouraging towards school, your child will be too. Both the students and teachers will appreciate your involvement and assistance in activities ranging from sports and excursions to music and drama presentations.

9. **Educate your child about 'stranger danger'**

Teach your child not to talk to strangers. They should not accept gifts or lifts from someone that they do not know.

10. **Label equipment and clothing**

Replacing lost clothing and equipment is expensive and inconvenient. You should clearly mark every item with your child's name.