PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

It has been a pleasure to watch some terrific examples of student leadership within the classroom, around the school and in extra-curricular activities. Staff members have also demonstrated great leadership in assisting the development of their colleagues teaching practices which in turn progresses their professional skills for the benefit of our students. Gundagai High School is proud of our values of Respect, Responsibility and Integrity which aim to develop valued and distinctive global citizens who are capable of collaborating with others for greater success.

“I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things.” - Mother Theresa

P&C Annual General Meeting

The GHS P&C met on Tuesday 16th March for the Annual General Meeting where key roles were appointed. On behalf of Gundagai High School I thank the committee for their efforts in 2014. Gundagai High School’s strong sense of community spirit is represented by our Parents & Citizens Association. The P&C provides a forum for parents and community members to play a part in the educational experience of GHS students. A lot can be achieved through the P&C and school working together.

2015 Elected Positions

President – Lizzie Britt
Secretary – Rob Glazebrook
Treasurer – Carmel Lemon
Publicity Officer – Shannon Bartlett

We encourage all parents and Gundagai community members to come along to P&C meetings to mix with other parents and members of staff to understand what is going on within the GHS school community.

Save the date: The next P&C meeting will be held in the GHS staff common room on Monday 11th May at 7pm. We look forward to seeing you there!
Year 6 Parent Information Evening

We had over 45 parents and students attend the first year 6 Information Evening on Tuesday 17th March. Two of our current Year 7 students, Oscar Bartlett and Jordan Cooper, made a wonderful speech to the group about their experience at GHS. There was also a tour of the school grounds and an exhibition of student work on display in the hall and some classrooms. We look forward to getting to know our new families and students in the future.

New Seating

Gundagai High School has decided to update some seating areas in the playground. Several new seats with tables have been ordered, as well as new materials to reinvigorate some of the outdoor furniture around the school. The Year 11 Construction class initiated the movement of some of the current seats and are placing them permanently in the senior quad area.

New School Plan

Staff will be continuing work on the new school plan on Tuesday 24th March after school. It is hoped that the published version of the plan will be completed at this time. I will be presenting it to the Cootamundra School’s Director in Week 10 for validation. It will then be published on the schools website.

Year 12 Exams Week

HSC Mid Course exams will be held throughout Week 9 for our Year 12 students. I wish all of our students’ good luck and hope that they receive grades that are a true indication of their efforts and potential.

Simon Bridgeman
Relieving Principal

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

In the last fortnight Staff have been involved in the following Professional Development:

- CHS Sports Convenors Meeting
- VET Training
- Gallipolli Conference in Canberra
- Primary School visits
- Police Forum
- Principals Network Meeting

Bullying knows no bounds

When cyberbullying hits home - what one mum wishes she’d done differently.

Because most cyberbullying happens in the home, parents need to be aware of the technology that young people are using.  http://www.schoolatoz.nsw.edu.au/technology/cyberbullying/when-cyberbullying-hits-home

Matthew Bishop
Relieving Deputy Principal
**FRONT OFFICE**

**Voluntary Contributions and Subject Fees**

Individual student invoices will be posted home on Monday outlining the Voluntary General School Contribution fee and Course Subject fees payable for your child.

While I emphasise the voluntary nature of the **General School Contribution**, it is vital that you realise that funds raised in this way provide additional resources for your children, assist in improving the school environment and in up-dating the school’s capital equipment, such as computers.

**Subject Contribution:** Elective courses attract further fees as these subjects require the provision of specialised resources. GHS ensures all parents are aware of the financial contribution we request for elective courses prior to students enrolling in these subjects. Payment can be made in cash, cheque or in instalments.

Unpaid fees may result in reduced participation in extra-curricular excursions and activities. There is no better investment for your children’s future than to support their education.

Thank you in anticipation of your support in this matter.

A copy of the voluntary School General and Subject Contribution letter along with the Schedule of Fees is attached as a guide.

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**ENGLISH**

**Primary School Visits**

Mr Regan and Mrs Lu visited Gundagai PS, Gundagai South PS and Nangus PS teaching English skills to Year 6 students. This initiative started in 2014 and the same enthusiastic response from the primary schools was shown this term. Students showed great enthusiasm toward developing their paragraph writing skills, trying their very best to produce quality work. The visits will take place once every term for the rest of this year to support the transition to English in high school.

**Year 7 English Book Review:**

**BLUEBACK** by Tim Winton

Abel and his mother live in a small coastal town in Robbers Head, called Longboat Bay. Abel’s father died at the age of 32 in a diving accident. Abel and his mother love to dive for abalone and on one of these dives Abel finds a big blue grouper and befriends it. He called it ‘Blueback’.

He frequently swims in the bay with ‘Blueback’ and feeds it.
Abel and his mother overcome many troubles along the way when trying to preserve the waters at Longboat Bay, including saving ‘Blueback’ from a greedy reef stripper called Costello, and a cargo ship oil spill. Mad Macka was close friends to both Abel and his mother. Mad Macka died from a heart attack, in which Abel inherited his boat.

Abel went away to school and became a marine biologist, got married to a girl called Stella and came home and continued his mother’s quest of cleaning up the bay. His heart was at the bay no matter where he went. There are many twists and turns to this story that make the book interesting.

Tim Winton describes Abel from a little boy of 10 to an adult. The story has many themes of love, loss, adventure, friends, growing up and mishap’s. There are also morals like ‘don’t take more than you need’, ‘never give up’, ‘care for the environment’ and ‘don’t expect rewards’. His book is aimed at teenagers of my age and a bit older. I recommend this book to many others. I give it a rating of 4/5 stars.

Bradley Luff

GEOGRAPHY

Year 10: Field Excursion to Lake Albert

Year 10 students went on the annual Geography Field Excursion to Lake Albert, Wagga Wagga, on March 10. Getting our students out in the field allowed them to better appreciate and understand the value of our land and water systems. Students undertook a range of data collection activities. Among them were water tests for turbidity and nitrogen levels, and soil tests for pH and salinity. They were also shown various infrastructures implemented to ensure the sustainability of our precious environment. The excursion was rich in activities, and once again, proved valuable to students’ study of Australia’s physical environment.
ANZAC DAY CEREMONY 2015

This year marks the centenary of the formation of the ANZAC forces and the battle fought on the Gallipoli Peninsula. The Gundagai community lost 52 local servicemen in this conflict and their memory is preserved at the Gundagai ANZAC Grove memorial. The Gundagai RSL Sub-Branch would like to pay special tribute to those 52 servicemen by having 52 students from local schools leading this year’s Gundagai ANZAC Day parade.

Gundagai High School students who are direct descendants from the 52 honoured servicemen are being asked to assist with leading the march. Other students with a Gundagai community relation who served during WWI are also encouraged to assist.

Students willing to assist with leading the march, as part of this special group, are required to meet on ANZAC Day at 10:30am. Please let Mrs Norden know if you are interested in participating in this special event or if you require any further information.

MUSIC

Success at Junee Talent Quest

At the recent Junee Railway festival “Almost Famous” (Jack Casnave, Keely Crane and Andrew Worldon) were extremely successful in the Talent Quest and Busking sections. The students gained first place for both events. They were up against some stiff competition including adults that have been performing for many years. Well done to all involved!

Riverina Central Choir

Congratulations to Vada Hindmarsh and Emily McDonald. The girls recently auditioned for the Riverina Central Choir and have been chosen to take part in this wonderful musical experience. The Riverina Central Choir participates in various performances within the Riverina area throughout the year and students are given the opportunity to try out for state level performances. Examples of past performances include Education Week Ceremony, Principals’ Conference, Children’s Medical Research Foundation Fair, Opera Australia, Opening Ceremony for Operation Art, Combined Secondary Schools performance at Sydney Town Hall – ‘In Concert’, Schools Spectacular and Wagga Wagga Christmas Spectacular.

The girls will attend 3 rehearsals per term, working on specific vocal and choral training and performance repertoire at Wagga South Public School on Wednesday afternoons. Well done girls!

Battle of the Bands (Tumut)

The Tumut Youth Council and Tumut High School are conducting the Battle of the Bands Competition on 2nd April 2015. “Almost Famous” which consists of Jack Casnave, Keely Crane and Andrew Worldon will be attending this event to compete against other local High School Bands. Each band will perform two songs and will be judged on their musical ability, communication with the audience, team work as a band and entertainment value. We wish these students the best of luck!
SPORTS

Gundagai High School Davidson Shield Report

Gundagai High had a Davidson Shield boy’s cricket match against Wagga High on the 4/3/15 at Michael Slater Oval, Wagga. Gundagai batted first and found runs hard to score on a very lush outfield. However, with determination and grit they compiled a competitive score against a very useful bowling attack that included several players from Wagga’s grade competition.

Luke Scott (13) and Kyle Smith batted (17) for twenty overs and frustrated the Wagga bowlers by picking off singles with some well-placed strokes. Kyle was dismissed in the 21st over and Jake Elphick came in for a brief cameo innings of 21 - including a straight driven 6. He was joined by Andrew Smith who played a solid anchor pin innings of 13 N.O. Most other batsmen struggled with Wagga’s attack with the exception of Clay Webb who batted solidly for 5 N.O. The outstanding effort for our team was to bat out the full forty overs against a very strong Wagga attack and I was very proud of the boys’ commitment and developing skills they demonstrated.

Our final total was 90 on a field that was hard to get value for the shots that were played and we believed it was a quiet competitive total. Jake Elphick opened the attack and bowled brilliantly in his spell. He was extremely unlucky not to pick up a couple of wickets in the first over. He beat the bat consistently and was given a deserved amount of respect from the Wagga batsmen. However, the rest of the attack did not have that respect reciprocated and the Wagga openers solid batting (Dylan Martin 56 N.O. and Henry Standley 35 N.O.) put the game out of our reach.

It was a tough call to be drawn against Wagga High in the first round of this competition but we can be proud of our efforts in this game and in the good spirit which it was played. I would like to thank the boys for their efforts, the parents that helped with transportation to Wagga and also their support at the game.

Girls League Tag

On Tuesday, 3rd March the years 7 to 9 League Tag team travelled to Cootamundra to participate in a round robin competition.

The full squad consisted of the following players:

Year 7 – Danielle Hand, Jane Lemon, Harriette Britt, Emily Smith
Year 8 – Karleigh Bower, Jayda Bartlett, Dempsey Elphick, Casey Polsen, Ebony Britt, Leonie Rolfe-Lanyon, Angelica Whiting
Year 9 – Megan Hand, Summer Elliot, Jessica Smith, Keylea Castles, Britney Wilson, Alyssa Lanyon-Dowling, Ashleigh Sutton, Peta Salmon

The first game was against Hennesy Catholic School and this proved the toughest game of the day. Hennesy lead 12-0 at half time and eventually won the game 18-0. This was a good effort considering the field position and time in possession of their opposition.

In the second game, Gundagai High School beat Cootamundra (team 2) 52-0 in a very one-sided event. The try scores were Karleigh Bower (2), Megan Hand (2), Emily Smith, Jane Lemon, Jayda Bartlett, Peta Salmon, Emily Smith, Keylea Castles and Angelica Whiting. The goal kicking was shared around with Karleigh Bower, Angelica Whiting (2) and Emily Smith all being successful.
In the third game of the day, Gundagai beat Sacred Heart Catholic School (team 2) 22-0. Jane Lemon managed a hat-trick of tries with Megan Hand and Jayda Bartlett scoring one each. Megan Hand was successful with one conversion.

The girls are to be congratulated on their effort and behaviour throughout the day. A special mention must go to Jack Lemon, Jack Casnave and Makara Smith who helped organise the trip and also for their great job coaching the girls.

### AGRICULTURE

**Gundagai High School Paraders Participate at the Tumut Show.**

On Saturday March 7th a team of 15 Agriculture students from Gundagai High School travelled to Tumut to compete in the School Parader Competition of the Tumut Show. It is always hard to beat Tumut High on their home ground and despite the excellent effort of our students it was again true for 2015.

The standout performance for Gundagai High on the day was Jarrah Ransome who collected the double by winning Tumut Show’s Year 7 Champion Parader to add to her Gundagai title. Maranda Carberry was awarded Champion Year 8 Parader at her very first show, an excellent effort. Harrison Daley and Jordan Crowe made it to the Year 10 final whilst Jack Hamilton and Hayden Smart competed in the Year 9 final. I was also very impressed with the amount of Year 7 students who entered and the level of skill they displayed at Tumut some at their first event. In many of the events it was half points that separated our students from the major ribbons. The whole team performed extremely well and should be commended for their dedication.

The Gundagai Show team was Harrison Daley, Clay Wilshire, Hayden Smart, Bradley Luff, Jordan Crowe, Patrick Daley, Campbell Smith, Ben crooks, Matt Peterson, Ashleigh Pollack, Clair Ryan, Maranda Carberry, Nathan Crane and Jarrah Ransome.

I would like to thank the many parents / carers who attend the shows to support their child’s interest in Parading as many get a lot of joy from the competition.

Also a very big thank you to Ian and Lynda Petty who allowed me to borrow their truck so that I could transport the school’s stock to and from Tumut, your generosity is very much appreciated.
P&C Election Day Cake Stall

The P&C will be holding a raffle and cake stall on Saturday 28th March at the High School for the State Elections.

This has been a great fund raiser in the past and we need your HELP.

Looking for people to give a couple of hours to work the stall or you can cook or donate goods for sale.

Help us help our kids.

Please contact Lizzie Britt on 0411 888 097 if you are able to help.
Netball Registration Day

Tuesday 24th March 3.30 to 5.30
at Hopes Place.

All primary students are asked to submit their individual registration and they will be placed into a team. Forms can be picked up from Hopes Place or downloaded from our website www.gundagainetball.wordpress.com

More information contact Tracey on 0412806400

Student Exchange

Enrichment, Education, Excitement - Become a Volunteer Host Family!
World Education Program (WEP) is inviting you to experience another culture in your own home by becoming a volunteer host family to an international student arriving in July 2015. Our students from Canada, Denmark, Ecuador, Italy, Belgium, the USA, and France are looking forward to experiencing life in Australia, making new friends and becoming a member of an Australian family soon.

"Wonderful - joyous - heartfelt. An absolutely wonderful idea and so beneficial for all involved, from family to school friends. We truly feel Enrico is another member of our family."
- Marie - host mother of Enrico (Italy)

Hosting Is Fun! Find Out more!
Getting to know your student before he or she arrives brings fun and joy to everyone involved. To help you make this important decision, contact WEP today to receive a full information pack for your family.

Sylvia Kelly
Manager – Inbound Exchange Programs
Phone: 1300 884 733
Email: info@wep.org.au
Online: http://www.wep.org.au
20th March 2015

Dear Parent/Carer

This letter outlines the Financial Contributions made by parents which supplement funds given to the school by the State Government.

The Financial Contributions have two parts:

1) General School Contributions

2) Subject Contributions for Elective subjects to pay for materials.

Each year, Gundagai High School requests families to support our educational programs with a financial contribution to the school. The funds raised ensure all students have access to resources that are current, interesting and appropriate for syllabus requirements.

**Voluntary General School contribution:** These funds provide additional resource for your children to enhance their educational experiences. The General School Contribution covers items such as printing school reports, providing award certificates, duplicating students information booklets and for the purchase of additional materials.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Voluntary Contribution</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Years 7-10</td>
<td>$40 per student</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years 11–12</td>
<td>$50 per student</td>
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A State wide survey recently found that the average secondary school contribution was $95. We have endeavoured to keep our fees to a minimum.

**Subject Contribution:** Elective courses attract further fees as these subjects require the provision of specialised resources. GHS ensures all parents are aware of the financial contribution we request for elective courses prior to students enrolling in these subjects. Payment can be made in cash, cheque or in instalments.

Families who are unable to pay elective subject fees because of financial hardship, may be eligible for assistance from the school. Any matters relating to assistance are held in the strictest confidence. Unpaid fees may result in reduced participation in extra-curricular excursions and activities.

There is no better investment for your children’s future than to support their education.

Yours faithfully

Simon Bridgeman
Relieving Principal
**SCHEDULE OF FEES AND CHARGES 2015**

**GENERAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juniors [Yrs 7 - 10]</td>
<td>$40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seniors [Yrs 11 – 12]</td>
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**SUBJECT CHARGES – [compulsory]**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Per Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TAS Technology (Mandatory)</td>
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<td>Visual Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year 8</strong></td>
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<td>TAS Technology (Mandatory)</td>
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<td>Visual Arts</td>
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<td><strong>Year 9</strong></td>
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<td>Visual Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial Technology – Metal</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
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<td>Industrial Technology – Timber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Technology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Technology &amp; Software</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Year 10</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial Technology – Metal</td>
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