PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

What a wonderful start to Term 2! Thank you to all the Gundagai High School staff and students for warmly welcoming me into the school community. I am busy learning all about everything our school has to offer and keen to gain firsthand experience of the teaching and learning taking place in all of our classrooms.

Term 2 promises to be another busy term, with the focus on the completion of assessment tasks for our students and the preparation and writing of many reports for our teachers. While I appreciate there are many competing priorities for a lot of our students after school hours, I will continue to seek the support of our parents and carers in ensuring that any homework set is completed in a timely manner. Homework helps to consolidate the learning that has taken place in the classroom and can help our students build on their subject knowledge.

It is also important to strike a balance between school, social and other commitments, in particular for our Year 12 students who are moving steadily towards their Trial HSC examinations mid next term. Continued focus, regular study and targeted revision will help our students maintain their commitment so they achieve their personal best across all of their subjects.

A reminder that our next P&C meeting is being held on Monday 11 May at 7pm so I am looking forward to meeting many parents and carers. In the meantime I welcome the opportunity to meet as many parents and carers as possible so please feel free to drop in and say hello if you are passing by and you would like to visit the school.

Adelia Fuller
Principal

UPCOMING EVENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4th May</td>
<td>Yr 12 Work Placement begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th May</td>
<td>Yr 12 Chemistry Excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th May</td>
<td>Open Girls League Tag in Young</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7th May</td>
<td>Yr 7 Immunisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8th May</td>
<td>Zone Athletics Temora</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th May</td>
<td>Getting into English evening 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>12th – 14th May</td>
<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<tr>
<td>14th May</td>
<td>ICE community forum in MPC</td>
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</table>
Welcome to Gundagai High School

On behalf of the Gundagai High School community I would like to welcome our new school Principal Mrs Adelia Fuller. She has been very busy over the first two weeks learning all the staff and students names, and understanding the schools procedures and processes.

New Road Signs

During Week 2 the RMS installed Flashing School Safety Zone Signs. Parents and students who drive to school should be aware that Police will be targeting Safety Zones throughout the school year.

Wiradjuri Dance Workshop

This week five of our students travelled to Tumut and participated in a wiradjuri dance workshop. The students were picked up by coach and spent the day mixing with students from across the Gundagai and Tumut district from High School and Primary Schools. All of the students came back energised and excited about the experience. Thank you to the Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) for organising this fantastic experience.

Adam Goodes AFL Program

Wayne Freeman has been participating in the Adam Goodes AFL program for the last 12 months and was successful in being selected in the NSW/ACT team to travel to Cairns over the April holidays. The team participated in a national aboriginal AFL championship. The team were well placed in making the finals. Wayne played numerous games and has made many friends during this program, whilst enjoying meeting many Indigenous AFL stars in the process. Well Done Wayne.

Managing depression

One in four kids over 12 has symptoms of depression. Would you know what to look for and how to help? Don’t be afraid, ask your child how they are feeling and keep communicating with them.


Financial literacy

Does your child need help with business and economics? Here’s info on credit cards, how to be responsible spenders and savers, and make consumer choices.

Find out more:

Help with ratios

Homework is full of tricky maths questions. Brush up on some of the maths terms your child uses in the classroom. This glossary gives straightforward explanations and illustrated examples.


Simon Bridgeman
Deputy Principal
**Thursday, 30th April 2015**

Gundagai High School’s 2015 Central Australia and Outback Queensland Excursion is scheduled to go ahead as planned, however due to reduced numbers of participants we are asking that students pay an extra $120 to allow the excursion to continue. If other students decide to participate in the excursion, the cost will return to the original pricing of $1690/student and the additional payment will be refunded.

There is also an exciting opportunity for parents to join our adventure for the same price as the students and we would welcome the additional support (please contact the trip coordinators or Deputy Principal to arrange). A reminder that payments need to be finalised as soon as possible and the original payment schedule/instalment plan is listed below. As we are requesting an additional payment of $120, we would appreciate all payments to be finalised by the 20th of May, 2015.

We thank you for your continued support of the excursion and should you require any further information please contact the trip coordinators (Ms. Sturt & Mr. Rake) during school hours on: (02) 69441233.

**Payment Schedule (as per original permission note)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Instalment</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>$400</td>
<td>17.12.2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$400</td>
<td>13.02.2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>$400</td>
<td>29.4.2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$490</td>
<td>06.5.2015</td>
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</table>

**ENGLISH**

The next Getting Into English evening will commence at 6pm on Tuesday 12 May in the Needlework room. All interested community members are welcome to come and join with the English staff while we workshop one of our favourite Shakespeare plays, *Othello*. This is the perfect opportunity for all community members to take another look at Shakespeare and find out why his plays are so popular and still the subject of study some 400 years after it was first performed.
HISTORY

Year 7 History and Ancient Egypt

Students in Year 7 have been studying Ancient Egypt. They have been researching the life and times of the most famous pharaohs. Their Assessment Task required students to conduct an interview with a famous pharaoh and write the transcript for the interview. Students scoring in a higher band were able to compose a conversational transcript developing family life, contributions and achievements with accurate dates, names and details. Congratulations to the following Year 7 students receiving a class award: Serena Petty, Jarrah Ransome, Cameron Smart, Jazmine Carberry, Dakota Anderson, Harriette Britt, Jane Lemon, Bradley Luff and Campbell Smith.

Here is an excerpt from Bradley Luff’s assessment interviewing Pharaoh Khufu:

Bradley: Please tell me about your family
Khufu: My mother’s name is Queen Hetepheres I and my father’s name is Pharaoh Sneferu. When I was a child I had 3 siblings whose names were Princess Hetepheres, Prince Rahotep and Ankhaf. When I was older I had 14 children, which 9 of them were boys and I had 3 wives.

Bradley: What was the greatest achievement while being pharaoh?
Khufu: My greatest achievement was building a pyramid at Giza.

Bradley: Tell me about the pyramid.
Khufu: I was the first to build in Giza. My pyramid took 23 years to build and I used 2,300,000 building blocks which on average weighed in at 2.5 tonnes. Each side was 750 feet long and is 480 feet high. My son’s tomb was at the top of the pyramid.

PREMIERS READING CHALLENGE

Premier’s Reading Challenge Book Reviews – Written by students in 7A

Platypus & Other Primitive Mammals by Jack Hyett & Noel Shaw – written Izaac Cotterill

This book gives you many facts about animals for example it’s habitats and size. Also it tells you about where in Australia it inhabits, whether it be in a certain area or all around Australia. But the book did tend to get boring sometimes and as I read the book further I started to dislike it. But it did tell me about species I didn’t even know existed.

All Stars 1: Maddy, Goal Defence by Meredith Costain – written by Jordan Cooper

When Maddy doesn’t get picked for the netball team she decides to make her own team. So with her friends Jess and Sarah, the three girls together set out with flyers and posters to find some more girls to play. My favourite character was Maddy because at the beginning of the novel she was really shy and her new team helped her to become more confident. I really liked this book because it was about netball.
AGRICULTURE

ATVs and Motor Bikes Course

On Thursday 23rd April, eight Gundagai High School Primary Industries students from Years 11 and 12 went to the North Wagga Primary Industries Centre to participate in the course Operate 2 & 4 Wheel Motor Bikes. The students participated in vehicle maintenance requirements, WH&S, risk assessment procedures and a series of riding and safety skills. These skills included safe cornering, emergency braking, climbing slopes, navigating a variety of ground conditions and towing a trailer. It concluded with students required to load and unload a 4 wheel bike onto the tray of a utility. The day proved valuable to the students allowing them to develop best practice techniques. The instructor Mr Jon Shuter commended the students on their mature attitude and the safe manner in which they conducted themselves.

The course forms part of the competencies the students need to achieve to obtain their Certificate II in Agriculture.

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

#### 2015 Cross Country Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 years</td>
<td>Oscar Bartlett</td>
<td>Jarrah Ransome</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 years</td>
<td>Bradley Luff</td>
<td>Jane Lemon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 years</td>
<td>Oliver McDonnell</td>
<td>Karleigh Bower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 years</td>
<td>Will Carberry</td>
<td>Shae Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 years</td>
<td>Harrison Daley</td>
<td>Rachel Stuckey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open</td>
<td>Marten Petty</td>
<td>Ellie Sheahan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SQUASH

School Squash Championship

Gundagai has held its annual squash championship on the last day of term 1. Some students playing squash competitively for the first time playing against others who play regularly caused a few one sided games, however, all students enjoyed the day and were able to play more than one person before we came back to school.

Eventual winners were Boys Champion – Andrew Smith and the Girls Champion – Ellie Sheahan.

An school team was also picked to play in the Riverina knockout. Those players were

Boys – Andrew Smith, Micah Glazebrook, Kieran Coleman, Harry Jones

Girls – Ellie Sheahan, Jade Smith, Zoe Watson, Dempsey Elphick

Riverina Squash Championship

The boys and Girls teams travelled to Young on Thursday 23 April and played in the upper Riverina area squash knockout.

The Girls team captained by Ellie performed well against a well drilled Young HS team and despite some close games went down 4-0. They next played Temora HS and with the score locked at 2-2 matches each, we had to go into count back and Temora were eventual winners 93-84. Young HS then cleaned up Temora and walked away as winners for the day.

The Boys team were drawn to play Wagga HS and then Temora HS, but both teams were late withdrawals from the competition. This provided the Gundagai boys an easy passage into the final against Leeton HS. Leeton having been the previous few years champions had a new look team and this provided hope for our lads. However they proved to have developed some very talented squash players to step up into the team and won 4-0. Captain Andrew Smith playing number 1, played an outstanding game of squash and everyone enjoyed the long rallies and sportsmanship displayed by both on the court.

At the end of proceedings we all played doubles, mixing up the schools and having fun learning new skills and friendships. I think the whole boys squad is already looking forward to playing Leeton again.

Thank you to Meike Coleman for helping with the transport and encouragement throughout the day. School sport often relies upon our parents to help provide transport and support and I would like to thank all our helpers throughout the year, the staff and students very much appreciate it.
**NETBALL**

**Netball NSW Schools Cup**

The Netball NSW Schools Cup is a state-wide event that promotes netball participation in schools. Originally the competition was designed for Years 5 & 6 students but over recent years, has extended to include Years 7 & 8 students, and has allowed both girls and boys to participate. In the last week of Term 1 Tumut hosted the gala day for schools in this area.

Gundagai High School was represented in both the boys and girls competitions with very strong teams across the court. Both teams displayed excellent netball skills, strong teamwork, and wonderful sportsmanship and as a result of their commitment to the games both the girls and boys teams remained undefeated progressing to the next round of the competition.

The girls had some very convincing wins and some more tightly contested games which really drew on their netball experience. Having only come together as a team for the first time, the girls gelled extremely well and played an outstanding level of netball. Each played contributed to the team with strong combinations right across the court. The girls are now eagerly awaiting the next level of the competition.

It was great to see Gundagai High enter a boys team into the netball competition for the first time. Each boy in the team is an excellent sportsperson and really thrived on having the experience to play netball. Their skill level was remarkable considering the little netball experience they had previously had. Players gained an experience in a range of positions throughout the day and utilised skills which have been developed in other sports, showing an excellent ability to transfer and adapt the skills onto the netball court.

Both teams are to be congratulated on the way they played in the gala day and for representing Gundagai High School so well. Thank you to the parents who were excellent support for both teams and to Miss Carr for her assistance and contribution.

Miss Annetts

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**P&C NEWS**

**Election Day Raffle Winners**

- **Kitchenware**
  - A Worldon
- **Car Pack**
  - P Sullivan
- **Portal Storage Shelves**
  - P Gain
- **Stem & Petal $25 Voucher**
  - J Corrimandal
- **Computer Clean & Check**
  - B Coggan
- **Family Hotel $100 Meal Voucher**
  - J Hawthorne
- **Criterion Hotel $40 Meal Voucher**
  - T Smart
- **Nangus Store Fish & Chips + Drinks for 2**
  - M Hawke
- **Subway Platter $55 value**
  - B Mellis
- **Hopes Place Meal for 2**
  - D Coggan
- **Niagara Café Meal for 2**
  - C Gillies
- **Allie’s Café $30 Voucher**
  - D Jones
- **Bushranger Café 2 Dinner Packs $20**
  - P Lott
- **Hungry Jack’s $Large Meal**
  - Feltham Family
LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student’s level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student’s right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 12-14 May 2015.

| TUESDAY 12 MAY          | WEDNESDAY 13 MAY | THURSDAY 14 MAY |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Language Conventions   | Reading          | Numeracy       |
| (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) |                  |                |
| Writing                |                  |                |

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 15 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student’s normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at [www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html](http://www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html).
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: _____/____/_____