Welcome to the first edition of our Gundagai High School newsletter for Term 3!

Term 3 is off to a busy start and as you will discover, over the last fortnight there have been many varied opportunities for our students to engage in activities that extend their learning in the classroom and beyond it. It is wonderful that our school can impact so positively on the lives of all of our students, as we guide them in partnership with parents/carers and families, during their adolescent years.

I would like to congratulate Donna Thomson on her appointment to the position of our permanent Senior Administrative Manager (SAM) following the merit selection process which took place towards the end of term 2. We welcome Donna to the Gundagai High School executive team and acknowledge the important role of our SAM in both leading our team of office staff, as well as undertaking a range of the school’s financial and accounting functions.

Monday, 27 July marks the start of Education Week 2015 and our school, along with the other Gundagai District Public Schools, Gundagai Public School, Gundagai South Public School and Nangus Public School, will be celebrating public education in our local community. We are all looking forward to showcasing the experiences that public education offers our students and to promoting all the benefits of our local learning community.
I am looking forward to the next P&C meeting on Monday 10 August at 7pm. All parents/carers and community members are invited to attend our meeting which will be held in the staff common room.

Adelia Fuller
Principal

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**FRONT OFFICE NEWS**

**OUTSTANDING SCHOOL FEES**

School voluntary General Contributions and Subject Contribution invoices relating to your child’s expenses will be sent out Monday 28th July.

We would be grateful for your immediate attention. If you require assistance due to changed circumstances then please contact the school to discuss possible arrangements. All correspondence will be in strict confidence.

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**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE**

**BUS SAFETY**

We have been asked by local bus operators to remind parents and students that seat belts must be worn when fitted on school buses.

**SNOW TRIP**

Twenty two very excited Gundagai High School students went to Selwyn Snow Fields on Wednesday 22nd July. We all set off to Selwyn at 6.45am on the Goode’s bus with Jim the driver.

When we arrived at Selwyn we got our snow gear, skis and snowboards.

The squad broke up into groups of skiers and snowboarders for lessons on learning to be better skiers and snowboarders. The lessons lasted 2 hours.

During lunch break we had free time where the dedicated Slippers and Sliders continued to improve on their attributes.

After lunch we had another lot of lessons to advance our skills on the snow. We then had free time until it was time to depart.

Despite the weather of rain and snow and the visibility was hectic, we braved the elements and had a cracking day.
We arrived home at 6.15pm very exhausted.

On behalf of the students, we would like to thank Ms Carr, Mr Bridgeman, Goode's Coaches, Jim the driver and Selwyn Snow Fields community.

We are all as keen as for the next trip to the slopes.

By Chaz Bishop and Will Carberry
UNSW

On Monday the 6th of July I caught a plane from Wagga to Sydney for a week’s experience of University life at Sydney UNSW. Arriving on the campus a bit before lunch gave everyone time to meet other students from far and wide around the country. We were sent into a lecture theatre with all the supervisors to listen to a lecture given by Dr Bolt, he talked about what it meant to him to be identified.

As I chose Education, I was with other students who were also interested in the topic. We were given 2 mentors who were looking after us throughout our activities during each day. We were in a room with a lecturer and a group of university students aspiring to be teachers themselves.

Each group of university students in our faculty had to organise tasks for us to take part in. Many activities included asking us to write down what inspired us to choose a career in teaching, designing our own school, describing our perfect classroom and what we thought would make a good teacher. We had many excursions that got us out of the classroom for the day. We caught a ferry to the Bundeena National Park to be led by a guide, who was telling us the history of the Aboriginal culture of the park and in Sydney itself. We also visited one of the childcare centres that were on the campus, going into the toddler’s room to play with the kids.

At the end of the week everyone attended the graduation dinner, which involved many speeches from past and present students of UNSW. They talked about what encouraged them to go to University, how they applied themselves and what they were studying to be after they had finished their course.

On Friday it was our final graduation day we all got given our certificates for participating in the Winter School Program, a speech was given from a past Law student who talked about how his mum encouraged him to attend University and achieve a Bachelor in Law. Saturday morning was our last day together saying our goodbyes and heading back home.

I would like to thank Mr Bridgeman, all the supervisors and Nura Gili for giving me an opportunity to see the life of a University student and letting me get an idea of how I can apply myself to achieve a job in education in the future.

By Amber Britt
AFL

On Friday, 17/7/2015 I, Wayne Freeman, went to Sydney. I was chosen to be a leader in the AFL Adam Goodes talent program selections for the 13-14 year olds.

I was chosen because I had attended the diversity championships in Cairns in December last year. I caught the Wagga to Sydney Rex Flight at 9:30 am

I arrived at 10:30 am at Sydney airport, where a bus and guide (Katrina) picked us all up. We headed to Homebush to our accommodation at the Olympic Park Lodge. We were treated to burgers.

After our snack we had a transport N.S.W workshop where we were given a talk on road safety. They were sponsors for this weekend.

Then off to Olympic Park for fitness training. In the training session we had to do boot camp which contained sit-up, birpies, pushups and triceps chair lifts. On Saturday we went to the Giant’s training Facility where we did some more training skills in AFL. These skills include handballing, kicking and game strategies. We then played a half field game using these strategies.

In the evening we went to watch the Swans and Hawthorn played. It was a little upsetting because the Swans lost. The group was not allowed to eat junk food at the game but we did, so we were given penalties for this. We had to do a ten minute shuttle run and boot camp.

Sunday it was time to pack up and catch the bus to the airport and home.

I would like to thank Katrina, Mr Bridgeman and Adam Goode’s.

By Wayne Freeman

SYDNEY LEADERSHIP TRIP

On the 4th June, the Gundagai High School leadership teams travelled to Sydney to attend the NSW Government Secondary School Leadership Program for School Captains. Sabrina Meurs, Brodie Paton, Zoe Watson, Darcy Ingold and Marten Petty were accompanied by Mrs Norden as they travelled from Wagga Wagga airport to Sydney Domestic Airport. Students from 10 NSW electorates were greeted in the morning by their local MP’s, including Gundagai High School students who were greeted by Member for Cootamundra Katrina Hodgkinson. During this time the MP’s spoke about the responsibility of being a leader, sharing leadership skills and mentoring other people to become leaders.

The Legislative Assembly Chamber and Legislative Council Chamber were both sitting on the day and students were able to view proceedings form the public galleries.
The students were able to see their local MP, Ms Hodgkinson, lobbying in the Lower House for the re-opening of a rail line in the Cowra area. The students gained an insight into the laid-back nature of proceedings in both houses.

In the afternoon students assembled at Government house for a guided tour by staff of the Historic Houses Trust. Following the tour His Excellency Governor David Hurley addressed the students in the ballroom, speaking about his military career and his current position as Governor of NSW. He also produced an invitation to the very same leadership conference students were attending, as the Captain of Port Kembla High School in 1970. His Excellency is very humble and gave the students some very valuable words of advice.

Overall, our students enjoyed the experience and would recommend the trip to any students interested in leadership. The leadership teams would also like to thank Mrs Norden for accompanying them on the trip and acting as a guide throughout Sydney.

ENGLISH

English

Year 12 students in Advanced and Standard are invited to participate in the study program each Tuesday morning from 7.45 am in B1. This is a great opportunity offered by the English faculty to help students to prepare for the exams to come. English staff will also add raisin toast and a hot drink as extra incentive to attend. We hope to see you there.

Getting Into English

This term’s Getting Into English evening will take place in the Needlework Room on Tuesday 4th August from 6pm to roughly 7pm. All members of the community are invited to come and take part in the evening and share coffee, tea and lively conversation. We will be looking at speech writing as our topic. We will look at some of the most influential speeches in history and see what made them so effective. We will then see if we can use some of those ideas in the speeches we may be expected to deliver. Please be assured that you will not be required to deliver a speech. Our aim is to help participants to more confidently prepare for those important speeches that are an inevitable part of life. We hope to see you there.
The Rule of Law Excursion

Last Term on the 27th May, Year 11 Legal Studies students went to Kooringal High with Miss Kingwill to listen to a presentation from the Rule of Law Institute to enhance their classroom learning and help with their Multi Media Presentation Assessment Task.

The topics covered included:

- Human Rights and the Racial Discrimination Act
- Metadata- Technology and the Law
- The Bail Act and the Criminal Justice Process

The students found the presentation worthwhile and we’d like to thank Mrs Feltham for assisting in taking us over.

Business Studies HSC Study Day

On Thursday 26th June, Miss Kingwill’s Year 12 Business Studies went to Charles Sturt University for a Higher School Certificate Study Day organised by the Riverina Social Science Teachers Association. On the day the students went to seminars on how to achieve success in the HSC exam format and the 4 Business Studies Topics- Operations, Finance, Marketing and Human Resources as well as an overview of the Universities Business courses available. The students found the day beneficial and useful for their own HSC Exam preparation.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

School photos will be taken on Thursday 30th July.

- All students have received their photo envelope. This must be returned on the day with correct money enclosed. **If you wish to pay by credit card there are instructions on the photo envelope as this type of payment needs to be made online.**
- Students must return their photo envelope even if they are not buying any photos. Photo envelopes can be returned to the front office prior to the day for safe keeping.
- Students must wear the correct school uniform and be neat and tidy.
- Students need to check the school notice boards to see if they need to be present for any sporting/cultural photographs.

Please contact Ms Weaver at the school if there are any further enquiries regarding the photos. Thank you.
Woolworths Earn and Learn has started for 2015 and you can help the school get some great resources just by picking up the tokens every time you shop at Woolworths. Gundagai High School was able to get some great resources last year.

So, please start collecting your tokens and put them in the box at the school office or in the Gundagai High School box in store at Woolworths Gundagai.

Sticker sheets are available at the office if you would like to use them.

**YEAR 7 CAMP - MILSON ISLAND**

It was a fantastic start to the term for Year 7 as 29 students headed off early on Tuesday morning to Milson Island for their Year 7 camp. After arriving mid-morning we were greeted by our camp leaders for the week Gib and Mick, and boarded the ferry for the short journey to the island. In what were glorious conditions, students eagerly commenced the afternoon activities of kayaking and high ropes.

Throughout the week students participated in a plethora of activities including vertical challenge, abseiling, a cookout, bush walks, damper cooking, kayaking and high ropes. In between activities, students utilised the free time to play games, sports, socialise and develop friendships with their classmates. Each night students had the opportunity to participate in a variety of games and activities, with a real highlight being the campfire and roasting marshmallows. Students also identified the night walks where the history of the island was discussed, the giant swing, fishing off the wharf, abseiling, the caves, and Gib’s busking session as highlights of a very enjoyable excursion.

One of the aims of the Year 7 camp is to allow students the opportunity to bond and develop rapport with their fellow peers.

The students grasped the opportunity of the camp with all attending participating fully and demonstrating a keen enthusiasm towards all activities. There were many laughs throughout the camp and all who attended, students and staff, have precious memories that will have with them for a lifetime.

On behalf of the staff I’d like to say a big thank you to all the students for their outstanding behaviour during the camp, which was acknowledged by several Milson Island staff and for the way in which they represented Gundagai High School. The group was an absolute pleasure to take away. Thank you also to Mr Herring and Mrs Lu for their effort throughout the camp.

Miss Annetts
Year 7 Adviser
COMMUNITY NEWS

TUMUT BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

Team nomination forms for the 2015 Spring Competition will be available from schools, Pie in the Sky Bakery, Swans and Sportspower.

The registration day will be **Tuesday 28th July, 4pm to 6pm** at Club Tumut.

Any registration enquiries can be made to the Registrar, Debbie Webb on 0427 647027. Enquiries may also be made through Tumut Basketball Facebook page.