Welcome to the first edition of our Gundagai High School newsletter for 2016 and welcome back to all members of our school community for another brilliant year filled with many learning opportunities for our students!

The school year has started extremely well for our staff and students, especially for our new Year 7 students who are settling in well to their routine and getting more comfortable with their subjects and new teachers. A big thank you to our Year 7 parents and carers for ensuring that your children are in uniform each day and ready to engage in their learning. I am looking forward to meeting as many Year 7 parents and carers as possible at our Annual Bowls Night being held on Tuesday 23 February at the Bowling Club. Invitations are currently in the process of being finalised and distributed.

An important part of the teaching and learning cycle is assessment and understanding the processes and expectations, especially for students in Years 10, 11 and 12. Last week I presented assessment information to our Year 11 students at their first year meeting this term. Each student received a Preliminary Assessment Handbook and this contains our policy and important information about our school procedures. Students are strongly encouraged to attend school every day, to engage actively in their learning and to complete all activities related to their courses of study. This is very important so that students can demonstrate they have satisfied the requirements of all of their chosen courses.

On the next page there is an extract from the Preliminary Assessment Policy and Procedures which outlines the steps to follow if your child is unable to complete an assessment task on the published date. I encourage parents/carers to take the time to read through the following important information and to contact me to discuss if you have any questions.
REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Students who know in advance they will be absent for a task must inform their teacher in writing prior to the due date, as soon as they are aware of the impending absence. This must be signed by a parent/carer.

2. Students who miss a task due to an emergency must make every effort to phone the school before classes begin on the day of the scheduled assessment task. They must then see the relevant Head Teacher on the first day of their return, before attending class, to collect and complete an Misadventure form to apply for a late submission.

3. If the student’s absence extends beyond the date of the assessment task, the student must contact the school to provide verbal advice about the extended absence. Other independent evidence must be submitted to support the additional date/s of absence. On the first day of their return, additional independent evidence to cover the additional date/s of absence must be presented to the relevant Head Teacher.

4. In all cases appropriate documentation must be provided and the matter discussed with the Head Teacher. Students who miss tasks because of illness must provide a medical certificate. The medical certificate must be specific and include details of the onset of the condition, plus any additional dates of consultation, together with a statement about how this might be expected to affect the student’s performance in the assessment task. A medical certificate only stating ‘illness’ will not be accepted. (Refer to BOSTES Assessment Certification Examination (ACE) 11003 Procedures for lodging an appeal). A proforma for this purpose is in the handbook.

I am looking forward to meeting as many parents and carers as possible at our first P&C meeting for the year on Monday 15 February at 7pm in the staff common room.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Adelia Fuller
Principal

Seeking volunteer drivers from our parent/carer community

In order to support some of our excursions that involve the transportation of smaller numbers of students, we are hoping that there are some parents/carers who might be available during the day to assist us.

If you are interested and willing to drive students in your car, would you kindly attend the front office to find out more. There is some paperwork that needs to be completed as well as providing the school with a copy of your driver’s licence and car registration.

Please contact the front office staff for more information
6944 1233
Christian Voluntary Lunchtime Groups

Seniors (Years 11 & 12) - JAG45 - Mrs Weilinga
Juniors (Years 7-10) - Catch Up Group - Mr Wong

A reminder to students that these groups meet every Tuesday lunchtime from 11.30 to 12.10pm in Rooms C1 and C2 to discuss matters of faith.

All interested students are welcome to attend!

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Welcome Back to 2016

As always the school year starts very quickly and we have welcomed new students in Years 7,8,9,10 and 11. Lowes uniform shop was a success and the swimming carnival has already been and gone. Students have begun work in their subjects and are slowly getting used to the change in period length and bell structure (see attached photo for details of bell times).

Facebook

For all Facebook users, please like Gundagai High School – “Strive to Serve” and keep up with all the latest news and events from the school. We have many past and present students, parents, grandparents and siblings following us, so join in and see all the terrific things our school offers throughout the year.

Lowes Uniform Shop

Lowes visited GHS on Thursday 4 February and were pleased with the response from students and parents during the January holiday period and whilst they were here at school.

For all your GHS uniform needs please utilise the Wagga Lowes shop in person or shop online and have your purchases sent to you. GHS has uniforms of all sizes for students to try on so your online orders can be done accurately. Just ask your child to see Robyn in the office and she will arrange for them to try on sizes and the correct size will be written on an order form for your convenience.

P&C Lockers for Hire

Gundagai High School P&C purchased the lockers to help students be organised, reduce the weight in their bags and also to provide a fund raiser for the P&C. Students can hire the lockers for $60 for the whole school year. This money goes directly to the P&C and contributes to items they provide to help our students learn and participate in events.

There are still lockers for hire so see Mr Bridgeman or the front office for more information.
School Swimming Carnival

Congratulations to Mr Hall for the organisation in planning and running another successful swimming carnival. Thank you to the staff and students who participated in the carnival and to those who achieved Age Champion. Good luck to those students who will represent GHS in the coming weeks at the District and Zone carnivals.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Girls</th>
<th>Boys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12 Years</td>
<td>Matilda Carberry</td>
<td>Not awarded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Years</td>
<td>Abbey polsen</td>
<td>Lachlan Bower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Years</td>
<td>Jane Lemon</td>
<td>Campbell Smith and Clay Webb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Years</td>
<td>Maranda Carberry</td>
<td>Noah Hargreaves</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 Years</td>
<td>Not awarded</td>
<td>Kalem Makeham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17+ Years</td>
<td>Rachel Stuckey</td>
<td>Joseph Carberry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

New P&C purchases for the school

Thank you to the P&C who have purchased a new shade shelter for use during sporting carnivals and special events. Used for the first time at the GHS Swimming carnival was a large yellow Gundagai High School shelter. See photo’s in the newsletter with Parnassus utilising the shelter for their house area.

Under 13 and Under 15 Rugby League jerseys/shorts and socks have also been purchased by the P&C. They have arrived just in time for the new year. Jack Lemon (Yr 12 student in 2015) helped design the jerseys and shorts and Campbell Smith modelled them for all to see at the swimming carnival. Looking forward to the first time the boys get to wear them and represent Gundagai HS in the new strip.

Congratulations Tate Brooke

Tate has been named in the Canberra Raiders under 16 Harold Mathews team. After many dedicated hours of travel and training to Canberra over the summer, Tate has been selected to compete in the 9 game competition. Tate has shown tremendous commitment to his rugby league goals and obviously has a very supportive family who have committed to the time and travel required.

Gundagai High School is proud of his selection and wish him well for the upcoming season.
157 Hanley St GUNDAGAI     Ph: 02 6944 1233    Email: gundagai-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Important Sports Dates 2016

Friday 12 Feb- Riverina Boys and Girls Volleyball trials
Monday 22 Feb – Riverina Boys Basketball Trials
Friday 26 Feb Zone -Swimming Carnival - Tumut
Friday 4 March- Riverina Swim Carnival – Leeton
Friday 11 March – Secondary Under 15 Boys & Girls Touch trials
Wednesday 23 March- **GHS Long distance Athletics Carnival during Sport**
Wednesday 23 March– Riverina Rugby League trials (Under 15 and Open)
Wednesday 30 March- **GHS Athletics Carnival**
Friday 1 April – Boys and Girls Riverina Open touch trials
Friday 8 April- Riverina Netball Trials
Friday 28 April -Riverina Lawn Bowls Trials
Wednesday 4 May- **GHS X-Country during Sport**
Friday 6th May- Golf Stroke Play
Friday 13 May -Riverina Squash Trials
Monday 13 May- Zone Athletics Temora
Friday 27 May Zone X-Country - Murrumburrah
Friday 17 June- Riverina Cross Country Carnival- Gundagai
Friday 24 June – Riverina Tennis Trials
Friday 22 July CHS Cross Country in Sydney
Friday 5 August - Riverina Athletics Albury
Wednesday 7 – Friday 9 September – CHS Athletics Sydney
Friday 9 December Riverina Blues Luncheon
FRONT OFFICE

A reminder that trophies received at last year’s Award Ceremony are to be returned to the school by the end of this term.

**Annual Renewal for Permission to Publish and Use of Online Services**

Parents/carers are advised that we are seeking an annual renewal of your permission to publish information about your child for the purposes of sharing his/her experiences with other students, informing the school and broader community about school and student activities and recording student participation in noteworthy projects or community service.

An annual renewal is also required from parents for the provision of online services from the Department.

Please note that a form for this purpose has been distributed to students at the beginning of the school year to be taken home.

This needs to be **returned to the Front Office as soon as possible.**
COMMUNITY NEWS

GUNDAGAI SHIRE COUNCIL

TOURISM PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

PRIZE

Each category has one $100 prize for the winning entry only.

NUMBER OF ENTRIES

Entrants are entitled to submit up to three entries in each category.

CATEGORIES

1. Gundagai Tourism Icon
2. Local Panoramic Landscape
3. Enjoying Local Attractions
4. Artistic Impressions of Gundagai

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

All photographs must be submitted in digital format of no less than 2MB as well as in printed form A4 size or larger. Failure to submit both hard and file copies of photographs will void your entry. Photographs must be of landscape not portrait orientation. Photographs must be taken within the Gundagai Shire. Gundagai Shire Council reserves the right to use any photographs submitted in local promotional material or online. The judges decision is final.

ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

Photographs must be submitted via email to travel@gundagai.nsw.gov.au (max file size per email 10MB) and hard copy photographs dropped in to the Gundagai Show as per their general photography entrants conditions.