Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What another fantastic fortnight at Gunnedah High School! Our message is getting out there. I have had the pleasure of receiving more and more enrolment enquiries from parents and students in and around Gunnedah.

As the Relieving Principal it is wonderful to see parents and students responding to our educational philosophy, directions and professionalism.

To give you an update thus far, our educational community in the last 2 weeks has:

- Met with the P&C to plan for the development of the school curriculum, student welfare and improving our already wonderful facilities and grounds.
- Organised an information evening for in excess of 80 parents, carers and students to discuss Stage 4 and Stage 5 Gifted and Talented Extension Classes.
- Organised an information evening for in excess of 110 parents, carers and students to discuss the implementation of Year 9 Laptops.
- Implemented an excellent and ongoing transition program for 103 students from South Gunnedah, Gunnedah, Curlewis, Carroll, Boggabri, St Xavier’s and Carinya Schools.
- Had a successful Winter Carnival with many Gunnedah High School students gaining selection in Football, Soccer and Netball.

I have been speaking with our School Education Director, Ruythe Dufty, who has passed on her congratulations regarding our newsletter. Ruythe has made a point to show her colleagues the high standard we have adopted and used the Gunnedah High School Newsletter as a means to show people what Gunnedah High School is really like.

If anyone asks you about Gunnedah and Gunnedah High School remember all the good work that our school community has done. Please be supportive.
and positive. We really do have wonderful students, staff and parents at this school.

Simon Bartlett-Taylor
Relieving Principal
Gunnedah High School

YEAR 7 PEER SUPPORT

Thursday and Friday 7th and 8th March Year 7 students took part in a two day Peer Support Program facilitated by Mr. Mooney and a team of Year 10 Peer Support Leaders. The program built students skills relating to teamwork, resilience and empathy. This year the program incorporated a day session at the Gunnedah PCYC, followed by an activities day at Lake Keepit Sport and Recreation Centre. The students thoroughly enjoyed both days of the program.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW!

What are they doing? Year 12 students 2011/2012

Matt Daley: Is studying Agriculture, at the University of New England.

Bradley Sandercock: Is having a “gap year”. In 2014 he will study to be a Paramedic at Charles Sturt University.

Kaylin Langdon is also having a “gap year” and will commence a Teaching Degree at Charles Sturt University in 2014.

Lachlan Merlehan graduated GHS in 2011 and after a “gap year” is now studying Contemporary Music at Newcastle University.

LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Zachery Block, finalist in the Regional Lions Youth of the Year. Zachery and mum Donna travelled to Moree, on Saturday 9th March for the finals. Zachery gave two impromptu speeches and a five minute prepared speech about Technology and Seniors. Zachery spoke well and delivered a creditable performance. Well done, Zachery, you did us proud!

Friends enjoying coffee and cake at The Black Forest Cafe
ITINERANT SUPPORT

The Itinerant Support Teacher (Hearing) Service, provides support for students with hearing impairment in a range of schools throughout our region.

Itinerant Teacher, Mrs. Jenene Gall travels from her base school, Tamworth West Public, to Gunnedah High School, four days a week, to work with hearing impaired students. Mrs. Gall has a Degree in Special Education specialising in Hearing Impairment, and has been committed to the education of hearing impaired students for the past 27 years.

In her role, Mrs. Gall supports students with the implementation and teaching of individual education programs, audiological support and management, plus classroom support. For further information about this service, contact the Disability Programs Consultant, Tamworth Regional Office. Ph:67555033.

SUCCEEDING IN SCIENCE

Encouraging your teen to ask questions and helping them find the answers is top of the list in helping them to succeed in science.

Find out more:

GABBY O’GORMAN

Congratulations go to Gabby O’Gorman on her recent performances at the NSW Combined High School Tennis Championships.

Gabby paired with Ciaram Lavers to take out the gold medal in the Mixed Doubles (Open).

In the girls doubles final, Gabby and partner Alex Bosovic, won silver and in the open singles Gabby won bronze. Well done, Gabrielle!

LIBRARY NEWS

The library has recently received an order of new fiction books for our students to enjoy. Our book of the month is the inaugural winner of the Hardie Grants “Ampersand Project”. New author Melissa Keil provides us with a fantastic book “Life in Outer Space” based on current family issues.

Also new this month, the “Midnight Dress” is a captivating novel for senior secondary students that gains pace as it goes along, with a wonderful twist in the end for any murder mystery enthusiasts.

Also of note is the Newbery Medallist author Linda Sue Park, “When My Name Was Keoko” – a captivating book looking at one family’s survival during the Japanese occupation of Korea. It highlights little things that make a difference in saving your heritage and your future.

SCHOOLS RECONCILATION CHALLENGE

Year 8 Art students have been busy working on their entry into the Schools Reconciliation Challenge 2013. This year’s theme is Say Something!
In November 2012, Year 12 student, Nikolas Traynor was announced as a winner of a Housing NSW HSC Youth Scholarship. The scholarship assists students in Years 11 and 12 to complete their studies. Mrs. Narelle Hertslet assisted with the application. The $2000.00 scholarship can be used to offset expenses related to the student’s studies.

After submitting a detailed plan of how the scholarship funds would be spent, Nikolas was able to purchase a new upgraded laptop which he is now using to complete his major work for Multimedia. The remaining funds will be used to purchase a portable keyboard to expand his musical talents and tutoring to help improve his final HSC results.

Nikolas would like to urge any Year 11 or Year 12 student who lives in public or community housing to apply for the scholarship.

For further information about Housing NSW HSC Youth Scholarship go to; http://www.housing.nsw.gov.au/Living+in+Public+Housing/Housing+NSW+HSC+Youth+Scholarship.htm.

**FACTS ABOUT FRACTIONS**

If you’ve forgotten 3/5 of primary school maths and 7/8 of high school maths, what’s left? Ah ha! Kids need help learning how to add fractions too. The only thing left is to print these fact sheets.


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Chris Middlebrook Flying Scholarship

Sponsored by
Middlebrook Air Operations
Gunnedah Aero Club invites you to apply for a Flying Training Scholarship to the value of $10,000.

If you are between 16 and 21 years of age, attend a Secondary School or TAFE College in Gunnedah or Farrer Agricultural High School and/or live in the Gunnedah area you could be eligible to apply.

The training is offered by Gunnedah Flight Training and must be carried out at the Gunnedah Airport in accordance with CASA regulations.

You will have to join the Gunnedah Aero Club and contribute to the running of the Club, including the maintenance of the club’s aircraft and ground facilities.

Applications will be accepted up to mid-April when a limited number of interviews will be offered to selected people.

An introductory day will be held on Saturday March 30th

For more details consult Gunnedah Aero Club’s website www.gunnedahareoclub.com.au
On Friday 15th March, students of Gunnedah High School showed their support for the National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence, by wearing orange string around their wrists. The day was an opportunity for students to take a stand together against bullying. The String Movement is worldwide and uses their voice, creativity and community to help spread the word that bullying is not okay.

**AUSTRALIAN RED CROSS BLOOD SERVICE**

Students from Gunnedah High School have been rolling up their sleeves for many years donating blood to the Australian Red Cross Blood Service. Blood donations are vital, with one in three people needing blood in their lifetime. A single donation, when components are separated, can make up to 22 different products.

Gunnedah High School is proud to be part of the Australian Red Cross Blood Service program with students giving blood each fortnight. The program is voluntary and the rewards are knowing that, with each donation given, a life is saved.

Miss Kathryn Christoff, co-ordinator of the program travelled to Tamworth on Tuesday 5th March with students Sarah Jamieson, Amia McDonald, Sarah Woodhouse and Sophie Suter where they were inducted into the Australian Red Cross Blood Service Youth Ambassador Program. Students learnt about blood donations, how to organise blood drives and how to encourage their peers to donate.

Students participating in the blood donor program so far this year are: Josh Day, Sophie Hendrie, Sarah Jamieson, Amia McDonald, Tonisha Constable, Samantha Furner, Jessica Mitchell and Kimberley Wilkinson. Each visit, four students donate blood on a rotating basis.

Miss Christoff said “students have been great ambassadors for the school while making a positive contribution to society”.

**YEAR 8 FOOD TECH**
Year 12 students are off to an early start, getting prepared for their end of year celebrations. Last Wednesday, during sport, students held a car wash to raise funds. Excellent job!
SRC DEVELOPMENT DAY

The Student Representative Council of GHS attended their development day at Gunnedah Services and Bowling Club last Wednesday where they spent the day getting to know each other and planning a direction for the year. All students showed exceptional skill in working together, especially when it came to the team building games. They finished the day with a game of lawn bowls where calls of ‘good grass, good grass’ followed many winning shots.

These students are already outstanding leaders in our school community and it was a pleasure to spend the day following on their leadership skills.

GUNNEDAH JUNIOR SHOWGIRL

Gunnedah Junior Showgirl Competition

WIN AN IPAD

Great opportunity to meet new friends and be more involved in your local community

Entrants need to be aged between 15 and 18 years

For more information please call

Pippi Beer: 0437 427 137 or call into

Garvin & Cousens - 229 Conadilly Street

for an information pack.

Entries close Friday 5th April 2013

Gunnedah Junior Showgirl Winner 2012 Sara Hutchinson

GUNNEDAH DISTRICT SOCCER ASSOCIATION INC

Nomination Days for 2013 Junior Competition

Saturday 13th April 2013

11.00am-1.00pm

Geoff Morgan Soccer Fields Talibah St, Gunnedah

Competition Starts Saturday 4th May 2013

For Further Information Ph: Glen Boyd 0427060094.

GUNNEDAH NETBALL ASSOCIATION

Registration Days

11am-1pm Saturday 06th April
4pm-6pm Thursday 11th April
9am-11am Saturday 20th April

Competition Commences

Saturday 4th May 2013

For ALL age groups

All enquiries: 0413817643

www.gunnedah.netball.asn.au
The Principal and Staff of Gunnedah High School wish you all a very Happy Easter.