Dear Parent/Caregiver

This newsletter I have chosen to write my report in stages in order to highlight and celebrate our school’s achievements.

**Friday 19th June: Today has been one of the highlight days of the year for Gunnedah High; we have honoured the past but also taken a big step in creating a new future.** The school athletics carnival was held today, returning the event onsite and conducting the carnival on the main oval and old hockey field which has been converted into a venue for field events such as discus and javelin. The day has been an overwhelming success.

Despite wet weather through the week the oval was still in condition to hold the event and the carnival was well supported by the student body. If I can acknowledge the efforts of some staff in particular but also thank the staff of GHS who were very enthusiastic about the return of the carnival and have supported the event greatly today. So thanks to-

- Rod Byrnes-our General Assistant who does a fantastic job in maintaining our grounds and oval and for marking and preparing the oval for today’s event.
- Pat Twining-who has taken over as the Head Teacher Attendance and is working very hard in this new role, who set up the sound system and was our announcer for the day.
- Jasmine Stark/Simone Brady, who were the carnival organisers, Adam Mooney, the relieving Head Teacher PE and the whole PE staff-great organisation and execution on the day.

I am unsure of the last time the event was held at the school. I’ve heard different stories ranging from early 00’s to the 90’s, but it has been some time. Quite a
few longer serving members of staff or staff members who went through school at GHS were very pleased to see the carnival back at the school and recounted stories to me about the history of the school.

In terms of the future and continuing to build community links, Gunnedah South School are looking to host their carnival at GHS and we are coordinating with the PSSA to host the regional primary carnival. The carnival today has been a major success and is shaping up to be another strong link in the chain of working closely with our partner Primary schools.

*Tuesday 23rd June:* We celebrate NAIDOC week during the last week of term. A major project will be undertaken this year with students painting a mural that will be displayed in the canteen area of the school. An assembly that elders were invited to occurred today. Can I thank our relieving AEO, Sommar Conlan, and Deputy Principal Wayne Woods, for the organisation that they have done for NAIDOC week celebrations and activities.

*Friday 26th June:* As the semester draws to a close there are some events that I’d like to draw to the attention of our learning community which will occur early next term.

Reports will be mailed out at the end of Term Two and will get to homes in the holidays. Parent Teacher Night will be the first Thursday back of Term Three which is the 25th July and the Semester One High Achievers assemblies will follow the next day on the Friday morning. We fully encourage parents and carers to attend both. Further information will be mailed home with the reports.

**Shane Kelly, Principal.**

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**NETBALL**

Last week the GHS Open Girls Netball team played in the Combined High Schools Knock Out competition gala day in Tamworth. The first game was against Narrabri HS. At full time the score was locked at 30 all so an extra time period was utilised with GHS coming out on top 41 - 30.

The girls played Oxley HS next. Once again the girls had their work cut out for them with another tight game, and a couple of minor injuries. GHS were eventual winners with a score of 22-18. The girls are now through to Round 4 of the competition.

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**FAREWELL**

The Principal, staff and students of Gunnedah High School, sadly say farewell to Hospitality teacher Mrs. Megan Verdon. Megan has been a great asset to our school and we wish her and her family all the best for the future.
## Uniform Shop Price List

**GUNNEDAH HIGH SCHOOL**

2015/16  
2014/15

### **Y7-12**

#### Sports / Unisex
- **Track Jacket - Microfibre**
  - All Sizes: 78/Sale 53.65 71.50
- **Track Pants - Microfibre**
  - All Sizes: 55.00 47.50
- **Sports Shirt - Cotton Backed**
  - All Sizes: 42.00 39.50
- **Sports Shorts - Inc Zip Pocket**
  - All Sizes: 40.00 37.50

#### Jumpers
- **Rugby Jumper**
  - Jnr: 89.00 84.95
  - Snr: 89.00 84.95
- **Polar Fleece - Inc Emb**
  - Jnr: 52/sale 45
  - Snr: 54/sale 45
- **Knitted Jumper - Inc Emb**
  - All Sizes: 92/sale 66.75 89.00

### **SENIOR Y11-12**

#### Girls
- **Formal Blouse - Embroid**
  - Snr: 39.50 36.00
- **Skirts Tartan Skirt**
  - Snr: 69.00 63.00
- **Formal Shorts - Inc emb**
  - Snr: 48.50 46.95
  - Jnr: 29 sale 29.00

#### Boys
- **Trousers - Inc Emb**
  - Snr: 55/sale 49 49.00
  - Jnr: 55/sale 49 49.00
- **Formal Shorts - Inc emb**
  - All Sizes: 48.50 46.75

#### Accessories
- **Sports Cap**
  - White: 6.50 6.50
- **Sports Socks**
  - 1pr per pack - Ankle Lgh
  - White: 6.50 6.50
- **Belt**
  - All Sizes: 15.00 13.00
- **Tights - nylon**
  - All sizes: 10.00 9.95
- **Scarf**
  - 13.00 11.50
- **Gloves**
  - 8.00 7.50

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Dear Parents

Over the past 12 months we have experienced a significant increase in the costs to manufacture your uniforms. This is mainly, but not solely due to the decrease in the Australian Dollar by nearly 20%.

During the same time we have maintained pricing to ensure that you have not been impacted at the register. We have also introduced a range of internal measures to cushion the impact of the falling Australian Dollar without impacting on the quality or consistency of your uniforms.

Whilst we have absorbed some of the impact of the change, we have no choice but to introduce a revised pricelist effective 1 August 2015.

We encourage you to purchase or Lay by uniforms before this date to beat the price rise.

We thank you for understanding and hope you continue to enjoy your experience with Alinta Apparel.

Warm regards  
Alinta Apparel Pty Ltd

Uniform price list & online shopping available at:  
NARRABRI HIGH SCHOOL VISIT CAFE OPTIME

Staff members Kathy Bailey and Julieanne Brown accompanied Year 10 students from Narrabri High School to visit Gunnedah High School’s, Cafe Optime. The visitors enjoyed morning tea of milkshakes and hot chips prepared by the Year 12 Hospitality students.
Michael Grose’s Top 5 Parenting Tips for School Meetings

Conferences and meetings between parents and professionals offer an opportunity to discover a child’s progress; share information or resolve social and learning challenges. They can also be the source of conflict and stress as views can differ so it helps to remember that everyone’s goal is to work for the best interests of a child or young person. Here are some tips to help make the meeting or conference more productive and less stressful for everyone involved:

1. **Confirm the meeting:**
   If the meeting has been called by someone at the school, then confirm that you will be attending. Confirm also if someone such as another parent, family member, friend or professional will be attending the meeting. If in doubt, find out if more than one person will be attending from your child’s school, including an outside professional such as a speech therapist or other specialist.

2. **Work from a fresh slate:** Sometimes meetings can be marred before they start as negative past experiences can carry residual resentment. Every new meeting offers a fresh opportunity to create better outcomes for your child.

3. **Prepare well:** Before a meeting or conference, list any questions that you want to raise. Keep the questions short and to the point. Similarly, it may be useful to list some of your child’s strengths and areas of improvement that you’ve seen at home.

4. **Listen first:** Give the teacher a chance to make an assessment of your child’s progress or behaviour. This may sound obvious but some meetings never get off the ground because an enthusiastic parent takes over.

5. **Ask what you can do:** Show your commitment to producing better results by asking for exercises that you can do at home to develop skills. It may be a good opportunity to ask for recommendations for outside resources to help you and your child. Often teachers know about camps, activities, organisations or events that can encourage educational and social growth.
Tuesday 23rd June, Gunnedah High School and the Aboriginal Elders of the community celebrated NAIDOC Week with a whole school assembly. Janika Readett and Marlie Thomas delivered Welcome to Country in both traditional and English language. Brothers, Coen and Cody Abrahams, played the didgeridoo during the flag raising ceremony and Stage 5 Drama students performed ‘The Rainbow Serpent.” Special guest, Mrs. Stella Lamb, spoke to the assembly about her memories of camping on the Murrumbidgee River with her mother and older sister. The ceremony finished with morning tea prepared by canteen manager, Mrs. Gai Bowen.
The 7/8POP ‘Programs Changing Youth Choices’ joined with the ‘PCYC Footprints’ program to attend Lake Keepit Sport and Rec Camp in Week 9, Term 2. The aim of the camp was to develop and promote positive attitudes, improved self-esteem and team work skills.

The two day camp was free for students to attend, with all costs covered by Reconnect. Students were supervised by Miss Christie (7/8 POP Teacher), Sommar Conlan (AEO), Danielle (Reconnect) and Snr Constable Trevor Roberts (PCYC).

Students had the opportunity to participate in a large range of activities; they thoroughly enjoyed kayaking, the large swing, orienteering, canoeing, low ropes course, team building games, archery and rock climbing.

All students had an excellent time and enjoyed themselves. A big thank you to Danielle from Reconnect for organising the camp!!!
ROMAN CENTURION SIGHTED IN CURLEWIS

On Tuesday 16th June a Roman Centurion was sighted at Curlewis Public School. The Centurion had stepped off the streets of Rome and onto the streets of Curlewis. It is believed he was under the Emperor Trajan’s orders to teach the student’s of Curlewis Public about the life of a soldiers in 1st Century Roman Empire. He generously allowed the students of Years 3-6 to try out his armour and practise battle manoeuvres. His visit coincided with a unit of work on Italy/Ancient Rome. The visit also gave students a taste of History at Gunnedah High School through their transition involvement.

QUESTACON

The Questacon Science Circus visited Gunnedah High School last term. Lee Constable and Thomas Carruthers from ANU, Canberra, fascinated students with their hands on science display.
MANON PLANTS HER TREE

Manon Moraless Martinez is a delightful and extremely intelligent young lady from Écaussinnes, Belgium who is just finishing her year of living in Gunnedah and attending the very forward-thinking Gunnedah High School. She has been staying with Mr. and Mrs. Walls of the Rotary Club of Gunnedah West. Manon’s selection for participation in the Rotary International Student Exchange Program was one of her life goals and she reports that she has thoroughly enjoyed her time in Australia, and she is looking forward to seeing the Sydney Swans play at the Sydney Cricket Ground in the near future. As much as the Gunnedah community would love to see Manon stay, she is soon to return to her family and friends in Belgium after a thoroughly exciting year.

On Wednesday 17th June Manon planted a tree in the Gunnedah High School grounds. A plaque has been placed next to the tree with her name as a reminder to the school community of Manon’s visit. The project was a joint initiative by Gunnedah High School and the Rotary Club of Gunnedah West and was attended by the Gunnedah High School Principal, Mr. Shane Kelly and the President of the Rotary Club of Gunnedah West, Mr. Welington Sardinha.

The Gunnedah community will miss Manon but she promises to return sometime in the future.

NAIDOC WEEK AT GUNNEDAH PUBLIC

Gunnedah High School students, Marlie Thomas delivered the Welcome to Country, and brothers, Cody and Coen Abrahams, played the didgeridoo, at the Gunnedah Public School NAIDOC Week celebrations.
GHS ATHLETIC CARNIVAL
Thursday 16th July
Parent/Teacher Interviews
5pm - 7pm

Friday 17th July
High Achievers Assembly
Years 7, 9, 11 9.15 - 10.10am
Years 8, 10, 12 10.15 - 11am