Dear Parents/Caregivers,

The year is quickly drawing to a close. The end of the year ceremonies and presentation will be on us before we know it. One of the major events for the year, the Year 12 Formal, was conducted last night. One of the best formals that I have attended in my career. A very well run and orchestrated evening. Can I give a huge thank you and congratulations to Year 12 Year Adviser, Emma Holdom, who organised the evening. As with the graduation ceremony at the end of last term, the connection and respect that exists between Emma as the Year Adviser who has taken the group all the way through from Year 7 to 12, and the students was very evident. The appreciation of parents who acknowledged Emma’s commitment as Year Adviser was also apparent.

Can I thank Vicki Merlehan and Cath Reynolds who spoke on behalf of the P&C in acknowledging the efforts of Emma and the staff of Gunnedah High in supporting this group through the HSC. Also, thank you to the Ex Services Club for the catering and hospitality. The talk at school today has been how good of an event it was and how good the food was, first rate. So, thank you to the catering crew who looked after us so well.

End of year exams are occurring at the moment and staff are going through the end of year reporting cycle. This will lead into the final presentation ceremonies and activities for the year. The major events to mark on your calendar are:-

- Year 8 Excursion Week 23 -27th November
- Year 6 Orientation Day 3rd December
- Presentation Ceremony 10th December

Shane Kelly Principal
On Thursday the 29th of October, selected Year 7 students from Gunnedah High School visited Gunnedah Public School to participate in Music. Count Us In! 2015. MCUI is a national initiative to promote and foster music education in Australian schools and culminates in a live internet broadcasted performance of the same song at the same time, by students from across Australia.

One song is specifically written for this program each year and then it is complemented by additional lesson resources as well as instrumental and ensemble parts to enable participation in the performance from all ages and musical abilities. This year’s song “Gold”, was written by selected students, assisted by John Foreman and Marcia Hines and the national broadcast was from Taronga Zoo with a group even performing the piece from the top of the Sydney Harbour Bridge!

GHS and GPS students were led by Gunnedah Conservatorium of Music teacher, Julia Rennick, in joining over 550 000 students from over 2100 schools around Australia to sing “Gold” at 12:30pm on the selected day. Gunnedah High school students had been learning the recorder part to the song since August in order to be able to participate with their partner primary school students in the live broadcast. This is the first time Gunnedah High School has registered to partake in this event, but the success of MCUI 2015 will ensure it won’t be the last.

Gunnedah High School performers were Tyson Bower, Madisyn Rumbel, Kaitlyn MacAulay, Madi Milgate, Breanna Ellery, Jennifer Mackay, Kira Mancer and Debbie Stead. All students performed beautifully and are sure to have benefitted from such a collaborative and exciting initiative.

Members of the Senior Council attended the annual GRIP Leadership Conference in Tamworth.

Students from over the North West and the Hunter participated in the conference workshops and forums during the day.

School groups were also able to plan activities for their own schools and develop a leadership plan for themselves.

The day was a very valuable one for the students who will be inducted into the Senior Council next Tuesday.

Congratulations to Kustiani Tuckerman who won the local level of the Rotary Public Speaking competition on Thursday night.

Kustiani will progress to the next level of the competition early next year.
GHS STUDENTS & STAFF SUPPORTED THE WHITE RIBBON WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT
Six enthusiastic agricultural students attended the 2015 Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza from the 22nd – 25th October with our three school steers, Arnie, Tonk and Macca. The students have been working with the steers during and outside of school hours. Students participated in activities ranging from how to judge cattle in the show ring, how to judge a carcase at the abattoir, public speaking, the nutrition of cattle and careers in agriculture. Abby Gordon was awarded a third place ribbon for her excellent parading skills with Tonk during Friday’s activities. Our steer, Arnie, was awarded a Highly Commended in his class and then went on to receive 5th place on the hook. All students represented Gunnedah High School to the best of their ability and should be proud of their efforts.

Gunnedah High School would like to thank Vince Tydd and Rob Cull for providing steers for the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza and Mr Walls for his help throughout this excursion.
CAPERS 2015 was held in Week 5 of Term 4 at the Tamworth Regional Conference and Convention Centre (TRECC). The name stands for Creative Arts in Public Education Regional Spectacular and occurs every second year. Similar to other regional specturals around the state, CAPERS involves music, dance and drama performances relating to a particular theme. This year’s theme was “Out of the Box” and had segments portraying a jukebox, a lunchbox and a mailbox which ceremoniously represented the Centenary of the ANZACS landing at Gallipoli.

Gunnedah High students represented the school in the Massed Choir. This consisted of rehearsals twice a week during their break times (over terms 3 and 4) in order to learn all of the required songs before heading off to Tamworth for 3 days of full group choir rehearsals at the TRECC, culminating in both a matinee and evening performance on the Friday and another evening performance on the Saturday. All students did a superb job in their participation with students from over 9 other schools forming the CAPERS Massed Choir.

Miss Singleton would like to sincerely thank the following students and their families for supporting this large scale regional creative arts production. Without all of your effort and cooperation, Gunnedah High School would not be able to be represented in such a marvellous and successful event.

CAPERS 2015 Massed Choir performers were Denita Megson, Marlie Thomas, Leeanne Stead and Kalila Megson.
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