Term Review
This Term at Goondiwindi State High School we have worked hard with our students in all classes to set clear expectations in relation to the classroom and across the school. To do this we have aligned our school’s values of Respect, Learning and Achievement to the ‘actions’ and ‘choices’ students make to realise their academic potential.

This has meant that our focus as teachers has centred around being clear and consistent in the way in which we deliver our lessons, and also managing students who are not meeting these expectations in a swift and timely manner to ‘re-teach, redirect or re-explain’ the expectations related to the classes’ learning environments.

We are confident that those students, whose performance has been their focus, will have the greatest chance of meeting their full academic potential.

End of Term - Reporting
We are sending report cards out early during the first week of Term 2, as this enabled us to run ‘normal’ classes and focus on transitioning to Term 2. Don’t forget to make appointments for Parent/Teacher interviews which are being held early in Term 2.

Study Tour - Gundy to Gallipoli
Once again our school will head off to Singapore, Belgium, France and finally, Turkey, to commemorate our fallen soldiers. We will meet up with other schools and groups who are doing exactly what we will be doing.

Next Term our work will be no different. We will continue to set high expectations for our students and support them to meet these and ‘LIKE’ what we see.

From the Principal’s Desk
It seems to be a common comment in today’s society that we seem to have less time, more pressures and things give the impression of flying by. Given we are already returning for Term 2, have had our Easter break and it only feels like yesterday we were beginning 2016, there appears to be some merit to this comment. In relation to Easter I hope everyone had an enjoyable, relaxing break and found some time to spend with family and friends.

As we strive to maximise potential with the increasing demands on us, we need to become smarter and more efficient with what we do and how we do things. At GSHS we are continually looking to improve the way we do things and will continue to refine our processes. One of the processes we have refined over the last couple of years, is the way we report and then meet to discuss students’ progress. I encourage everyone to fully utilise these opportunities.

One way to do so is to take the time to read through your child’s report card with them, discussing the reasons why they achieved their results and what they will need to do differently, or maintain, the next report card. The more we are all clear around what needs to be done to promote learning, the greater chance it will occur.

As we begin Term 2 please initiate the conversation with your child, asking questions like:

- What are you learning this Term?
- How are you doing and what do you think you’ll need further help with? How do you know that?
- How can you improve and what do you need to be able to do that?
- Where can you get the information and the help you need?

If they are not confident in answering any of these questions please instruct them to talk to their classroom teacher as soon as possible to ensure they are set up for success in Term 2. If you require any assistance in supporting your son / daughter please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Justin Kuskie, Deputy Principal

Term 1 Reflection and Looking Forward to Term 2
It seems to be a common comment in today’s society that we seem to have less time, more pressures and things give the impression of flying by. Given we are already returning for Term 2, have had our Easter break and it only feels like yesterday we were beginning 2016, there appears to be some merit to this comment. In relation to Easter I hope everyone had an enjoyable, relaxing break and found some time to spend with family and friends.

As we strive to maximise potential with the increasing demands on us, we need to become smarter and more efficient with what we do and how we do things. At GSHS we are continually looking to improve the way we do things and will continue to refine our processes. One of the processes we have refined over the last couple of years, is the way we report and then meet to discuss students’ progress. I encourage everyone to fully utilise these opportunities.

One way to do so is to take the time to read through your child’s report card with them, discussing the reasons why they achieved their results and what they will need to do differently, or maintain, the next report card. The more we are all clear around what needs to be done to promote learning, the greater chance it will occur.

As we begin Term 2 please initiate the conversation with your child, asking questions like:

- What are you learning this Term?
- How are you doing and what do you think you’ll need further help with? How do you know that?
- How can you improve and what do you need to be able to do that?
- Where can you get the information and the help you need?

If they are not confident in answering any of these questions please instruct them to talk to their classroom teacher as soon as possible to ensure they are set up for success in Term 2. If you require any assistance in supporting your son / daughter please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Justin Kuskie, Deputy Principal

Brett Hallett Principal

“I Aspire, I Achieve”

Goondiwindi STATE HIGH SCHOOL

Term 1 Issue 2
Motivational Media

On Thursday 3 March, we had Motivational Media come and deliver a presentation to our students. Motivational Media self-define as a “40 minute, high impact cinematic presentation that confronts, challenges and inspires”. I can attest that this presentation lived up to this ethos and more. This year the theme was about everyday heroes and moved beyond the idea that heroes are people who have done something huge and significant, that our students might feel they could never accomplish. Everyday Heroes unpacked the journey these heroes have been on: the journey of colossal hours; moments of dedication, commitment and perseverance; low points where failure could have been embraced but the choice to persevere was made; and those years of hard work. Students watched the stories of a Paralympic winner, a multiple accident survivor, the youngest Australian to attempt to climb Mt Everest, and the best friend of a suicide victim. The students enjoyed the range of stories as this helped them see a connection between the presentation and their own lives.

Term 1 in Junior Secondary
During Week 6, Year 7 students travelled down the range to Emu Gully Leadership Camp. The students completed lots of leadership and communication activities in groups. I always enjoy watching how students respond to these stressful activities. Some students, who normally achieve academically, may feel pressured they take part in physical activities such as crawling through the small tunnels. Conversely, students who may not normally be the sporty type, show the patience and dexterity to inch their way across a floating log. It is always enjoyable to interact with students during these activities to see a different side to them. Many of our students stepped up to the mark and showed great leadership and communication skills.

In Term 2, students in Year 8 will rotate through their elective lines. Week 9 of Term 1 might be the last time ever that your child has an Art or Drama lesson. This should spark the first of many important discussions between parents and their children regarding their futures. Do they need to know what career path they are on? Absolutely not! But the discussion should have students starting to think about the world beyond schooling and how they might contribute to it. The conversations shouldn’t be heavy and some leading questions could be:

- What did you think of that subject?
- Did it engage and interest you?
- Did you achieve in it?
- Could you see yourself picking that subject again for Year 9?

These questions and more will lay the foundations for future conversations about career pathways.

Phil Jenkins
Acting Deputy Principal

Chappy Chat

Over the last few weeks I have attended a number of activities including the Laura Geitz netball competition to cheer the girls on, the Tapas Hospitality night, the School Social and the Broncos netball and football games. I also took part in Masterclass and have provided weekly Happy Faces treasure hunts at Inglewood and Goondiwindi.

I have also recommenced providing a different staffroom with the M&M dispenser to enjoy the contents throughout the week. The boost box also continues as another way to show teachers that their work is appreciated. At Friday morning tea a name is drawn from the boost box for a $5 voucher at Laurenz. I would like to sincerely thank Lauren Smith for her ongoing generous donation of the weekly voucher, and also Rebecca, the new owner, for agreeing to continue this. I have also started the same concept at Inglewood to encourage the staff members there. They receive a voucher from Rosa Bella Nursery Coffee and Gift shop.

Already this year, there have been a few birthdays which we have celebrated with mud cake, including one at Homework Hub.

This year I have acquired a new helper for breakfasts which is wonderful! I have a Year 7 helper and Jocelyn Brown also helps, along with Paul Andrianatos. We have had to request more free bread from Gunsynd Bakery, which they happily agreed to.

My new helpers have been an invaluable asset as toastie days are hectic.

I have also assisted with the new youth group that Mel, our Primary Chaplain organised. We have had a number of Goondiwindi High School students attend.

The Clontarf Program has started and I have been spending some lunchtimes in their room playing board games with students.

At our last Formal Parade, each student received a small Easter egg. Thank you to all the churches who donated eggs and money to purchase eggs. They were enjoyed and appreciated by the students.

Finally, I continue to assist in various classes and see individual students when necessary.

Sonia Frost Chaplain
Staff “Liking” Students’ Behaviour

The “Likes” Rewards System is well underway this Term with students collecting ‘Likes’ for demonstrating the school wide expectations. Students have been given the opportunity to cash these Likes in during Week 9 Like activities. In Term 2 we are hoping to really get the Likes Shop up and running, by increasing the variety of prizes we have on offer to the students. We are calling on support from the community to help us stock our Like Shop with things that we can use to reward students for meeting the expectations. Any local businesses or families who are wanting to donate items for the Like Shop should please contact the front office.

Rachael Redpath
Acting Deputy Principal

Community Talks

As part of the Year 12 non-QCS Care program, a number of guest speakers have attended to talk to the students.

The Police spoke about young people’s rights and responsibilities when approached by the Police. Mr Mick Litherland from the Royal Hotel spoke to the students about the Hospitality Industry and his expectations as a potential employer of students. Mr Sam Couton from Coorowindl Cotton spoke to the students about the Retail and Farming Industry, what’s involved in the industry and tips for getting a job in both industries.

It is great that our local community members are able to come and share their knowledge and expectations as potential employers of our students.

Suzie Collins
Youth Support Coordinator

Student Council

The GSHS Student Council is up and running for the year. Already there have been animated discussions about:

- ‘likes’ program introduced by Miss Redpath,
- Litter problem and proposals to eliminate this issue around the campus
- Unanimous support for more air-conditioning in some priority classrooms of C Block
- A presentation by the Clontarf Foundation to keep members aware of happenings in the school.

Students have brought along ideas including: water coolers (4 to be installed), notices being made available to students on their laptops, and the need for working clocks in all classrooms.

We have had a lockable noticeboard installed under C Block and this has been used to advertise the Social this Term and to display a photo of some Student Council members.

Student Council has enjoyed excellent attendance to date and is supported by members of the Administration along with Mrs Jobling, Mrs Maloney and Ms Bryan.

Juniors Debate the Issues

The first two Junior Debates took place during Term 1. Topics were: ‘That Zoos Should Be Abandoned’ and ‘That Every Home Should Have a Pet’.

Congratulations must go to our Year 7, 8 & 9 students who participated in these debates. Adjudicators praised all debaters for their research, development of arguments and professional manner.

Special mention must be made of Year 12 students Emily Kilpatrick, Shae McDonald and Shanee Vollbrecht who acted as team mentors and coaches. Their assistance and commitment were commendable. Well done to everyone involved!

We look forward to continuing our debating next Term.

Spotlight on Sport

Over this past Term, multiple students have attended trials for various sporting events. We have had student’s trial to make Border District teams in everything from soccer, to netball, to swimming and everything in between. Most of these students then went on to represent Border District at Darling Downs trials. Below are the students who were selected to represent Darling Downs at upcoming State championships.

Congratulations students, we look forward to seeing your results representing our district.

While these students are away attending trials, we often need teachers or parents to attend to help supervise. Over the course of this Term, we have had multiple teachers give up their time to take us to trials. These teachers have risen early, got home late, packed and washed uniforms, written lessons to cover their classes, planned, run and organised trainings and given up hours of their own time to give us the opportunity to play sport.

On behalf of the student body, we would like to thank the staff members who have supported us and enabled us to play the sports that we love.

In week 8 we had our first round of the Broncos Anglo-American School Competition. We won every game convincingly against Inglewood, Texas and St Joseph’s, Stanthorpe. Congratulations to all student participants. We hope you can keep this momentum going.

Caitlyn Russell & Bailey Soper, Sports Directors
Beth Madsen, Sports Co-Ordinator

‘Like’ us on facebook

Recognising that many of our students and parents are frequent users of facebook, we constantly upload information, photos and events to our GSHS facebook page. If you are a facebook user, you can ‘like’ our page. This page has been created to improve communication and keep parents aware of whole school happenings and other significant events.

Whilst there are other communication methods used within our school such as the newsletter and SMS messages, the facebook page is designed to “fill the gap” and is a great way to get messages through quickly.

Facebook
On Wednesday 8 March, female members of the Student Council were invited to attend breakfast with guest speakers at the STT to mark International Women’s Day.

Helen Black encouraged the women present to be BOLD and to challenge themselves every day to step up and out of their comfort zones. Betsy Turner told us of travel stories from India so we could appreciate how lucky we are to be Australian women. However she also encouraged us to network more to turn our dreams into reality with the support of other women.

The girls enjoyed the great food and were warmly welcomed as the youngest attendees by all the women present, who also included the lads from the GSHS front office.

Ms Bryan for Council

Laura Geitz Netball

Sunday 26 February 2016, saw the seventh annual “Laura Geitz” (current member of the Firebirds and the current Captain of the Australian Netball Team) Netball Shield Competition held in Toowoomba. The aim of this competition is to boost the profile of sport, to provide girls with greater exposure to high-level competition, to ensure the development of potential players and to encourage the involvement of girls and young women in a variety of sporting activities, especially netball.

The extremely enthusiastic GSHS Team consisted of Paris Robinson, Deborah McGrady, Chelsea Coote, Elizabeth Brown, Zoe Hawker, Aleah Peckham, Sophia Smith and Laura Jobling. Four out of four wins saw the girls win their pool, securing them a place in the Championship Playoff games. The battle for regional supremacy was our team’s next challenge, coming up against Fairholme College, Lockyer District SHS and St. Ursula’s College in the top four Final Play-off games.

For game one, against St. Ursula’s College, the girls nervously and excitedly took the court, and the game hit a frenetic pace from the first minute! Highlights of the first half included dynamic shooting, tireless defence and consistent centre-court support. In game two of the Play-offs, the girls put everything together to absolutely annihilate Lockyer District SHS!

Games three and four were again fiercely contested by all teams, especially against Fairholme College. A loss to Fairholme College still saw our girls make the Grand Final, but unfortunately they committed some fundamental errors, allowing Fairholme College to eventually win the game. GSHS placed second overall in the Darling Downs district which is a most outstanding achievement!

I would like to congratulate the girls on their fine conduct, outstanding co-operation, sportsmanship and performances, both during and prior to, the games. The all represented our school, themselves and their gender with much pride.

Thank you to Miss Sarah Dunne for assisting me to coach the girls; to all of the parents who travelled to Toowoomba to assist with scoring of games and to cheer us on; to our School Chaplain, Sonia Frost, who also travelled to Toowoomba to support our team and assist!

Goondiwindi State High School netball is certainly looking hot for 2016!

Louise Dyer & Beth Madsen
Netball Co-ordinators/Coaches
Lions Youth of the Year

Once again the Lions Club of Goondiwindi invited our senior students to enter this year’s Lions Youth of the Year Competition.

This competition involves students completing a four page nomination form; participating in a thirty minute interview with three judges, and presenting one prepared speech and two impromptu speeches at a Lions Club dinner meeting.

This year, we had five Year 12 students enter the competition: Sophie Rixon, Emily Kilpatrick, Shae McDonald, Derek Ford and Breanna Bate. These students are to be congratulated on their performances in each category. Competition was close and all students were winners. We are extremely proud of them.

Winner of the Best Speech of the Night was Derek Ford and Overall Winner was Breanna Bate.

Breanna represented Goondiwindi State High School in the Regional Final of the Lions Youth of the Year Competition which was held in Goondiwindi.

Di Dalziel
HOD of Teaching and Learning,
SAC of English

Toga Time for our Students

School Socials are a great way for our students to mingle out of school and enjoy dancing and music in a safe, supervised environment. Each Term, GSHS holds a Social with a dress-up theme that is chosen by the students. Our first Social for 2016 was held on 3 March with the theme of ‘Toga Party’. The night was a massive success with great numbers coming through the doors as everyone embracing the theme.

The night was filled with dancing and singing in homemade Togas. It was particularly encouraging to see the Year 7s out dancing with everyone at their very first Social in high school.

A massive thankyou must go to everyone who attended on the night and to the people who helped set up and pack up. I’m looking forward to Term 2 Social and what it will bring.

Mikaylah O’Toole
Social Director
Our Senior Hospitality students applied the theory behind the Hospitality Industry to a real life learning situation for the presentation of their Major Assessment Function for Term 1, Tapas Cocktail Bar: “Mascarada”. The task for the Years 11 and 12 classes was to apply the Steps of the Catering Cycle to plan and present a formal themed function where five courses of indulgent gourmet foods were served.

During the lead-up lessons and on the night of the function, the students demonstrated skills and knowledge gained during their Hospitality course, to plan, operate and present a most professional formal function for the 55 invited guests who consisted of parents, teachers and other members of the local community.

A selection of exotic seafood, meat dishes, vegetarian and dessert dishes, including, chicken kebabs, stuffed mushrooms, coconut prawns with mango dipping sauce, roasted beetroot and yoghurt dip, raspberry panna cotta and decadent chocolate mousse, was served throughout the evening.

The experience gave the students an insight into just how much planning, preparation and presentation is required to execute such a function, including everything from costing the alcohol, planning various types of Tapas-appropriate foods and their garnishing, types of glasses, catering on a large scale, laws and regulations of the industry and what it feels like to be an apprentice.

Even though the production of such an event involved many hours of planning, preparation and hard-work, the students all agreed that it was a most valuable, worthwhile, rewarding and enjoyable learning experience.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Mrs Jensen, Mackenzie Timms and Erin Ellis for their musical entertainment on the night, and all of the parents, community members, teachers and staff for their continued support of Hospitality at Goondiwindi State High School.

Congratulations to our Years 11 & 12 Hospitality students on their amazing achievements!

Louise Dyer
Home Economics/Hospitality Subject Area Co-ordinator
Young Cattle Judges

Five GSHS students competed in the Young Cattle Judges competition at the Inglewood Show on Saturday 12 March, against a strong field from Downlands and Scots college. All students are to be commended on their efforts. Breanna Krenske, Bronte Fisher and Chloe Hunt made the Senior Final. These girls spoke exceptionally well and narrowly missed out on placing. Bronte is to be congratulated on achieving such success in her first competition. The students look forward to their next competition at the Goondiwindi Show.

Kate Ryan
Ag Science Teacher

Year 7 Anzac Experience

Our camp experience started very early on Monday morning, 5:30am to be precise, but our excitement overcame our tiredness as we hopped on the bus, ready for an adventure. We arrived at Emu Gully, just outside of Toowoomba, and met our instructors for the two days, Darren and Lynda. After dropping our bags off in our cabins, we had an introductory briefing and got straight into activities. The activities were meant to help us work together as a team and also improve our listening skills. These skills were tested time and time again, and Lynda loved to deal out punishment in the form of push ups for those who didn’t meet the requirements.

We were split into three teams, Alpha, Bravo and Charlie. The activities at Emu Gully are based around real scenarios and battles that the ANZACS experienced in the two World Wars and the Vietnam War. Throughout the two days, we scrambled through dark and wet tunnels, balanced on logs and wires, climbed through hoops, jumped off platforms, climbed over very flimsy bridges, rowed boats and rescued casualties, slid down giant slides, navigated through mazes in the dark and trudged through waist deep mud as a team. All the while having massive amounts of fun!

By the end of the two days, we were exhausted and ready for home. We learned many important lessons at camp. We learned to value each other’s opinions; that a team is stronger than one person; the importance of listening; and the true value of mateship and respect. We were glad to come back and apply these lessons here at Goondiwindi State High School.

Scott Schultz, Year Level Coordinator
P & C Meeting
All are encouraged to attend our monthly P & C Meetings which are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month

TUCKSHOP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
We are always looking for new volunteers to assist in the tuckshop. If you could spare some time to support this valuable service to the school please phone Sue on 4671 1898.

REMINDERS
STUDENT ABSENCE LINE
4670 0366

“Q Parents” is coming to Goondiwindi State High School soon. Be sure you read all the information included in this package.

Subject: Free Microsoft Office 2016 for students and school staff
This offer is for PERSONAL DEVICES ONLY, not DETE or school owned laptops etc.

All Queensland state school students and staff can now download multiple free copies of Microsoft Office 2016 to their personal home computers and mobile devices. You’ll just need your school email address to sign in.

Errors and conflicts will occur if Office 2016 is downloaded on departmental devices, as these devices already have a licenced copy of Microsoft Office.

The Office subscription lasts for as long as the student is studying at a Queensland state school, or the staff member is employed by the department.

Schools are encouraged to use the suite of materials available in the State Schools Update newsletter to promote the free Microsoft Office 2016 home offer to staff, students and their parents.

Learn more and get started.

MIS Team
Learning Technologies
Web and Digital Delivery | Information and Technologies Branch
Department of Education and Training
E mis.team@detqld.gov.au | W misloco.education.gov.au
Cooperso Education Precinct | 347 Old Cleveland Road | Cooperso Qld 4151
PO Box 1238 | Cooperso Qld 4151

School Clothing Pool
Parents and Guardians are reminded about the uniform clothing pool that operates from the school office.

Dear parents
At our school we aim to create a safe and supportive school community for everyone.

Sometimes, it can be difficult for parents or carers to know what to do when their child talks to them about bullying. You are an important part of our work to prevent bullying and to respond effectively if it happens. Stopping bullying involves everyone.

If your child talks to you about bullying:

1. Listen calmly and get the full story. Your calm response is important to allow your child to tell you all about the situation. As they’ve lived it, their view has been shaped by what happened. Although you may feel some strong emotions about your child’s experience, try to keep calm to avoid more distress to your child.

2. Reassure your child they are not to blame. Many children blame themselves and this may make them feel even worse. You could say things like: “That sounds really hard to deal with. No one should have to put up with that. I’m so glad you told me. You should be able to feel safe at school; that’s not fair at all.”

3. Ask your child what they want to do and what they want you to do. A critical part of your response is to avoid jumping in to solve the problem. While it is natural to want to protect our children, sometimes doing nothing is a better solution. It helps them feel they have some power in the situation.

4. Visit www.bullyingnoway.gov.au to find some strategies. The website has tips and ideas by different bullying situations. One idea is to practise strategies at home to help your child feel more confident.

5. Contact the school. Your child may be reluctant for you to do this, so discuss the idea and reassure them that the school can help. School is an important place to learn what to do when bullied. If your child has against their will, contact the school immediately as your school principal. Contact the school immediately if you have a concern about your child’s safety.

6. Check in regularly with your child. Keep the conversation going. It can take time to resolve issues, so check in regularly with your child about their experiences and their feelings. Your ongoing support is important.

Take a stand together.
www.bullyingnoway.gov.au

If you are looking for support for yourself to deal with a bullying situation, you will find ideas on the Bullying: No Way website for parents. As well, please contact the school if you would like to discuss any aspect of our approach to preventing bullying.

Thanks for your support to make our school a great school for everyone.