``High School Happenings’

From the Principal’s Desk

This year each leader received a journal which has the notes, journal entries and key events from the previous year’s corresponding leader. This is a new addition to the role which the Student Council has put in place. We believe this will become not only a historic record, but also a significant support for new leaders in our school.

Steaming Ahead With Writing

As some of our school community may be aware, one of our school’s key focuses for improvement this year has been student writing in the Junior Secondary school. For the past 20 months, planning, data analysis, teacher development and focused student instruction have been led by our Master Teacher, Bernie Hawker. We have received a number of various forms of recognition as a school for the student improvement which has occurred over this period of time.

Most recently our school has been one of a small number of high schools invited to be part of a national study related to improving students’ writing skills. This opportunity will have our teachers working collaboratively with the Learning Sciences Institute of Australia, in partnership with the Australian Catholic University. This is an amazing achievement for us as a school, which will afford us the support of other experts in this field of study.

Brett Hallett
Principal

Farewell Year 12

I explained to the Year 12 students recently that this year will be packed with many ‘lasts’, and this newsletter is just another one. I have asked the Year 12s to make the time to remember, acknowledge and say thank you to those teachers and other members of staff who have helped them over their time at High School.

There may have been the odd occasions where we have had our disagreements and share of conflict for various reasons. However, for most of us, particularly as we become more experienced in life, we understand that these times too are learning opportunities for us from which to draw.

On behalf of all staff and the students in other year levels at Goondiwindi State High School, we pass on our best wishes for each of you. Be ‘Brave and Courageous’ as you take on the next set of experiences and challenges which lie ahead of you.

Awards Night

Our Awards Night once again has provided us with a great opportunity to celebrate the individual achievements of our students. Inside this newsletter we will have all of our major award winners. Also during this ceremony, as is customry, we announced the school leaders who will undertake formal positions for 2017.

Our School Leaders for 2017 are:

Sports Directors:
Kira-Lee Lawrence and Brett Rissmann

Social Director:
Samantha Strachan

Pride Director:
Lucy McGlymont

Finance Director:
Chelsea Thompson

Cultural Director:
Mackenzie Timms

School Captains:
Ellie Billsborough and Rian Le Roux

Sending Off Our Seniors

As we move towards the end of another school year, the time to say goodbye to our Year 12 cohort is fast approaching. I would like to take the time to wish all of the students in Year 12 the best of luck as they move towards the next phase in their lives. I encourage them not to drop the ball in the last few weeks of school, as it is so easy to get wrapped up in the end before the hard work and assessment is actually over.

I would like to remind all parents that we will officially farewell our Year 12 cohort at a Graduation Ceremony on Thursday 17 November at 9am, followed by morning tea. More information will be sent out about this in the coming weeks.

I wish all Year 11 and 12 students the best of luck as they head into block exams for the last time this year.

Rachel Redpath
Acting Deputy Principal
Goondiwindi State High School’s annual Awards Night was once again an outstanding celebration of the achievements of students at our school. Parents proudly supported students as they were presented with awards for academic, sporting, cultural and citizenship achievements. We thank all sponsors for their continued support and congratulate all award recipients.

We especially commend our 2016 Special Award winners on their excellent effort and achievements, as well as those students who have performed to the best of their ability throughout the year but did not receive a formal award.

**2016 Special Award Winners**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spirit Cup Junior</th>
<th>Jessica White</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spirit Cup Senior</td>
<td>Toby Jessen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil O’Shea/Bi-Rite Electrical Duncan Wilkes Memorial Encouragement Award for Instrumental Music</td>
<td>Rebecca Phillips</td>
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<tr>
<td>Phil O’Shea/Bi-Rite Electrical Duncan Wilkes Memorial Excellence Award for Instrumental Music</td>
<td>Derek Ford, Erin Ellis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mick O’Shea Memorial Junior Hospitality Award</td>
<td>Georgia Stewart</td>
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<td>Gibbs Family Senior Excellence in Hospitality Award</td>
<td>Sarah Horne</td>
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<td>University of Queensland The Create Change Achievement Award</td>
<td>Breanna Bate</td>
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<td>Gateway to Training Trainee of the Year On the Job</td>
<td>Chloe Peachey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gateway to Training Trainee of the Year Off the Job</td>
<td>Caitlin Bussell</td>
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<td>Australian Defence Forces Leadership and Teamwork Award Year 10</td>
<td>Will Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian Defence Forces Leadership and Teamwork Award Year 12</td>
<td>Carla Doyle</td>
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<tr>
<td>David &amp; Betsy Turner Agriculture Junior Rural Award</td>
<td>Jessica White</td>
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<tr>
<td>David &amp; Betsy Turner Agriculture Senior Rural Award</td>
<td>Chloe Hunt</td>
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<td>Crowe Horwath Business Outstanding Performance in Year 10</td>
<td>Lachlan Manton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marilyn Sinclair Business Outstanding Performance in Year 12</td>
<td>Emily Kilpatrick</td>
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<td>Cathy Mullins Shield Achievement by a Year 10 Indigenous Student</td>
<td>Naomi Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cathy Mullins Shield Achievement by a Year 12 Indigenous Student</td>
<td>Nioka McGrady</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chesterfield Australia Encouragement Award Industrial Technology and Design Year 10</td>
<td>Timothy Wren</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mackenzies Timber &amp; Hardware Encouragement Award Industrial Technology and Design Year 12</td>
<td>Warwick Nutt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishops Newsxpress Cultural Award for Excellence in the Arts</td>
<td>Clancy Corcoran</td>
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<td>Andersen Truck &amp; Tractor All Rounder Awards</td>
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<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Layla Farmer</td>
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<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Paige Milligean</td>
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<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Elizabeth Brown</td>
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<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Emma McNaughton</td>
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<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Bronte Fisher</td>
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<td>Caltex All Rounder Year 12</td>
<td>Lane McNaughton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowes Petroleum Junior Dux</td>
<td>Tylah Sankey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowes Petroleum Senior Dux</td>
<td>Lane McNaughton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialised Farm Machinery Vocational Education Dux</td>
<td>Nioka McGrady</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tafe South West Outstanding Vocational Student of the Year Award</td>
<td>Peter Williams</td>
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<td>The Apprenticeship Company Sportsman Of the Year</td>
<td>Joel Stahlhut</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Apprenticeship Company Sportswoman of the Year</td>
<td>Lane McNaughton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Springborg Year 7 Bursary</td>
<td>Ben Hyson</td>
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Opening of Trade Skills Centre

The Goondiwindi Trade Skills Centre was officially opened by Mr David Littleproud, MP, Member of Maranoa on October 25. This significant milestone in the life of our school was celebrated with Mr Lawrence Springborg, Cr Graeme Scheu, Cr Lachlan Brennan, a group of students and staff, and local business proprietors.

In his address, Mr Littleproud reinforced the importance of our community to provide pathways to capture the workforce needed to sustain our community. He stated that Goondiwindi contributes more to the national GDP than Toowoomba, the Gold Coast and Townsville and so provision of the Goondiwindi Trade Skills Centre is integral to the prosperity and future of industry in our district. Our students have been accessing the benefits of this magnificent centre this year and are utilising industry standard machinery dedicated to delivering training and skills in the areas of Engineering, Fabrication and Agriculture.

We are grateful for our members of government who have supported us in our application for the funding that has led to the construction of the Goondiwindi Trade Skills Centre.

Learning Legalities

At the end of Term 3, Year 11 Legal Studies students visited the Goondiwindi Magistrates Court where they observed the processing of driving offences, drug and alcohol offences, physical assaults and stealing crimes.

The students learnt that some of the consequences of these crimes include fines, driver's licence suspension, good behaviour bonds, arrest warrants and community service orders. The Magistrate and Police Prosecutor had good, solid advice for the students:

"Choose your friends wisely; don't get involved with drugs; and think of outcomes before making choices."

UQ Young Achievers

Congratulations to our 2016 graduating UQ Young Achievers and welcome to the Year 10 students who have been successful in being accepted into the Young Achievers Program for 2017.

A lunch celebration was held to congratulate Breanna Bate, Eliza Fleming and Lane McNaughton on graduating from the Young Achievers Program for 2016, whilst Chloe Auld, Hayley Vaughan, Natalie Smith, Emma McNaughton and Josie Austin were welcomed into the program for 2017.

The camps, mentoring and bursaries are an invaluable opportunity for our students in supporting their academic, personal and leadership development throughout their senior years.

Helping Out, Giving Back

As part of the Year 12 Care Program, students have been focussing on helping out and giving back to the community.

Earlier in the year, they visited the Primary School to assist with landscaping the grounds. More recently, the students undertook a gardening project at GSHS, where they worked together to beautify the gardens and have a positive environmental impact.

Chloe, Hayley, Natalie, Emma and Josie will begin their journey with University of Queensland Young Achievers in January, with a residential camp where they will meet their Mentors and other Young Achievers from Queensland Schools.

If you are interested in your child having access to this opportunity, please keep your eye out for details when it is advertised in the May and June newsletters. Details of eligibility will be advertised at this time.

Toni Clarence
Guidance Officer

Steve Leadbetter
Year 12 Coordinator
During 2016 Expressive Arts Week, students tried out many different artistic endeavours, all linked to this year’s theme ‘Elemental.’

The week started with the opening parade to whet the appetite for what was to be delivered throughout the week. Included in the parade was a display of Year 10 Wearable Art pieces and of course, the ever popular staff acts.

Six guest tutors, and experts in their field, held workshops over the course of the week, providing the opportunity for students to learn from industry experts.

Tsoof Baras’s workshops in body percussion challenged even the most accomplished of musical students while also engaging the interests of others. His performances were captivating.

Personal Trainer and dancer, Cara Adams, from the Gold Coast provided inspiration for keeping fit with her highly physical workouts.

Environmental Artist, Mace Robertson, taught our junior art students how to design art from the elements as well as creating a magnificent Zen garden installation from locally collected sticks with our talented senior students. Professional wood turner, Bruce Bell, gave workshops on the new wood lathes.

Editor of Border Living magazine, Erin Corish, ran workshops and inspired English classes with her creative writing tips and prowess.

Tutors from Brisbane’s TV Studio Academy, Gavin Schofield and Dave Armstrong, worked with drama students to teach the finer points of screen performance.

Renowned chef, Kelly Lord, hailing from award winning restaurant ‘The Spirit House’ on the Sunshine Coast challenged our hospitality and home economics students as they stepped outside their comfort zones to cook and taste Asian specialities, learning new skills and a multitude of trade tips.

Friday’s Great Debate - ‘That school prepares us for the real world’ - at which the students won with the affirmative argument (of course), provided great humour and banter between senior students and teachers. This is the annual opportunity for students to argue with their teachers and be applauded for doing so.
While EAW has become a GSHS institution, Burning Poetry is the night time highlight of the week-long event. Students, teachers and community members took to the outdoor stage to share their poetry and stories in what was a feast for the culturally hungry.

The show-stopping body percussion act from our instrumental students and our resident professional percussionist was a stand out act, as was the sensational rendition of ‘The Cat in the Hat’ by a year seven student.

2016 Expressive Arts Week finished with Goondiwindi’s answer to The Voice, our very own Battle of the Bands in which our many talented musicians – students and staff – entertained us while we celebrated the end of a sensational week of immersing in the arts, soaking up culture and enhanced learning.

On Friday morning, Years 11 and 12 students displayed colour and energy in front of the whole school community at the annual Seniors dress-off! Students in Year 11 embraced an Australian theme while Year 12 represented the rest of the world.
In Term 3, a team consisting of Zoe Hawker, Ella Gerry, Laura Wilkes, Laura Jobling and Emma McNaughton, competed in the regional Opti-MINDS challenge at UQ Gatton campus. Opti-MINDS is a competition of creative problem solving. As winners of this level, the girls went on to Brisbane to compete in the Australian and Queensland State Finals on 15 and 16 October, at the University of Queensland, St. Lucia. There were 115 teams from across 13 regions in Queensland and also teams from Western Australia.

One part of the competition involved gender equality where the students explained the problems faced by women in society and were then required to collect as many signatures as possible in the 70 minutes of sell time.

At UQ St Lucia teams were locked away for 3 hours to prepare their long term challenge and also to perform a spontaneous challenge where they were given a topic and had a few minutes to prepare and present to the judge. The girls demonstrated great teamwork, higher order thinking skills and how to overcome a difficult challenge while having fun.

The students are very grateful for the support given by parents, grandparents, family members, Mr Hallett and other staff. Both Mrs Corcoran and Miss Peen are very proud of the effort, interaction and enthusiasm demonstrated by our team as they proudly represented GSHS.

Goondiwindi State High School values working with the local community. As part of the Chaplaincy Program at GSHS, Sonia began involving students in delivering Meals on Wheels to our older community members.

Anna Pateman, our current Chaplain, has continued this service which gives the students an insight into community service and the importance of lending a helping hand.

Students are always keen to accompany the Chaplains on the meal deliveries and recently four Year 8 boys took the opportunity to help.
By the Students, For the Students

The GSHS Student Council meets on a regular basis during lunch breaks to discuss the needs and wants of our students. Ideas are brought to the meeting via Class Captains to ensure as much input as possible is gleaned from across a wide section of students.

Looking the Part

This year the sports department have upgraded our senior netball and rugby league uniforms. These uniforms will be debuted in 2017. We hope to have plenty of opportunities to show off our new kits in the upcoming years and certainly hope we can make GSHS proud in our new blue and maroon gear!

Pinkies Prevent Polio

GSHS recently held a fund-raise day to help Rotary eradicate polio. One Friday was dubbed Pinkie Purple Day and students and staff members were asked to pay $2 to have a little finger nail painted purple. Each $2 raised paid for the polio vaccination for one child in a third world country, potentially saving a life.

$250 was raised at our Pinkie Purple Day, being the equivalent of polio vaccines for 125 children in a country less fortunate than ours.

Once again, our students embraced this opportunity to assist the community and proved yet again, that learning comes in many formats.

Chappy Chat

Expressive Arts Week has lived up to the reputation I have been hearing about since we moved to Gundy - it was awesome! I officially loved my first EAW.

A couple of weeks ago I went to a two day mental health first aid course in Brisbane which was excellent. I learnt a lot about ways to approach and deal with mental health issues but I also learnt so much about mental health itself! It really was an excellent course to attend and I would encourage anyone to upskill in this area.

Meals On Wheels is as popular as ever. The young school boys who accompanied me, received many comments from our elderly ladies about how handsome they are! They always love being served by the students and the students equally love the chance to serve.

Operation Christmas Child has once again been a huge success. You may have read about our effort in the paper. We collected a lot of bits and pieces from kids through the schools and town. It really is awesome to see kids so keen to get on board and caring so much about others. I love the Goondiwindi community and it was great to see it in full swing last week. We finished packing 100 boxes then received enough community support to post them all, at a cost of $900.

Clontarf

We currently have 35 boys signed up to the program. We have a couple of boys who are regulars in the room and are chasing parent consent forms to confirm their spot in the program.

This Term we are picking up students before school who we know have poor attendance. At the moment these students come mainly from the year 9 cohort.

Pup and I travelled to Noosa with 10 students from Years 8, 9 and 10. The purpose of this trip was to merge with Warwick and Kingaroy academies to give the boys the opportunity to participate in a non-competitive triathlon.

We are also trialling behaviour boards of which the boys take ownership. Teachers give them a score in the areas of punctuality and preparedness at the end of every lesson. It is hoped that the Clontarf values we are developing in the boys are transferred into the classroom.

This Term there will be opportunities for the boys to show leadership, both at school and in their community. Starting next week we will be visiting the primary school on a weekly basis to run some football games at lunchtime. The Years 10, 11 and 12 students will be running these sessions during their Clontarf contact time.

Another event that we are keen to run will be an induction camp for the year 6 boys.

Morgan Hindry, Clontarf Academy Director

‘Like’ us on Facebook

Recognising that many of our students and parents are frequent users of facebook, we are trial- ling a GSHS facebook page. If you are a facebook user, you can ‘like’ our page. This has been creat- ed to 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.
REMINDERS

STUDENT ABSENCE LINE
4670 0366

DATE CLAIMER
BYO Device Information Evening
Thursday 10 November 5.30pm in the iCentre
All welcome to attend, particularly parents/caregivers of current Years 10 & 11 students.

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.

Settling Accounts
All outstanding accounts for 2016 must be settled at the school office as soon as possible.
All resources must be returned and accounts settled, for students to obtain a copy of the school magazine, “Ukurrie”.

Alcohol Supply: No Minor Offence
As the end of year celebrations approach, all parents and guardians are reminded that the supply of alcohol to anyone under 18 for unsupervised consumption in a private place, is an offence. It carries a fine of up to $9108.

QParents
QParents provides parents with access to their child’s schooling information anytime, anywhere, through a secure online web and mobile application.

QParents is not just for absence notification — You can also see report cards, attendance, contact information, account balances, invoices and payment options.

For parents wishing to sign up to QParents, please contact the school office to arrange for registration. If your approval is still pending, please phone or call in to the office with two proof of address documents so we can finalise your set up.

Enrolment Interviews for 2017
Students wishing to enrol at GSHS for 2017 MUST have an Enrolment Interview with their parent/carer. The interviews will be held on:

When: Thursday, 10 November 2016
Time: 3pm – 7pm
Where: iCentre

Please book your interview online using SOBS (our new ‘online booking’ software). To do that, follow the link below. If you do not have internet access, please phone the school on 4670 0333 and the office staff will enter your appointment time. SOBS will be available from 25 October 2016.