We're Ready for 2017

2016 has come to a close and we hope that your children have had a fantastic year and achieved the goals they set out to. As you would be aware we have been focused on planning for 2017.

Next year we will be employing a new Head of Department to support our new staff members. There are teachers who have transferred, or who are taking leave, whom I would like to acknowledge and wish well on behalf of the school - Steve Leadbetter, Louise Cole, Kerrie Corcoran, Kate Ryan, Jordan Ryan, Amy Peen, Lisa Croft, Beth Madsen and Peter Healy. I would also like to especially mention Ms. Vanessa Moller who has been part of our administration team whilst acting as Deputy Principal. Thank you all for your dedication and input to our school over the time that you have been with us. As much as we are sad to see you move on, I know that you will do us proud and that your schools will be better places because of what you take with you.

Also, next year we will continue to implement our sun safety policy which will require every student to have a school hat. Other hats will not be permitted. School hats are available for purchase through the school office. In addition, mobile phones will not be permitted at school for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 in 2017.

Anzac Tour
The Goondiwindi State High School ANZAC Study Tour has been a shared school and community-based initiative, which has become a proud tradition over the past 12 years. During the past three tours I have witnessed the positive growth and enormous benefits the tour provides to participants. The feedback from past students and parents has overwhelmingly motivated us as a school to ensure we do what we can to continue to offer this opportunity, whilst taking into consideration the safety and security of the tour group.

Given the recent threats to the security and safety of individuals across the world, we have consulted with key supporters, past students and parents to gauge the best possible consensus in relation to any changes to the planned destinations and itinerary of the Study Tour.

In 2018 it will be our plan to travel to Singapore and France as usual, however we will not be travelling to Turkey for the ANZAC service in Gallipoli. Instead we will attend the ANZAC service at Villiers Bretonoux, which has become one of the largest pilgrimage locations for Australian citizens in recent times. Given that we will not be travelling to Turkey, we have made the decision to visit the United Kingdom and London, as has been suggested numerous times by our tour guides. The United Kingdom is a destination that aligns with the intent of the Study Tour and has many locations which were key in both World Wars and that hold great significance for Australians.

If you have any questions in relation to the 2018 ANZAC Study Tour or would like to nominate your child and/or yourself to be part of this opportunity, please contact the school. Continuing this Study Tour is dependent on having suitable numbers and I understand that there have been many families waiting to see if there would be any changes. Given this information has now been confirmed and communicated, please call us to register your interest so we can begin fundraising and organising for the tour.

Years 7, 8 & 9 Transition Programs
We have just completed our transition days for the Years 6, 7 and 8 students coming into High School next year. These days have gone very smoothly and have achieved the intended outcomes in preparation for next year. We will have four classes of Year 7 students next year.

Any parents who have a child intending to enrol at Goondiwindi State High School should have already completed an enrolment interview. Any student who has not done so will not be able to attend school until this has been completed. If you have not enrolled your child please contact the school office to see when we can arrange this to occur.

Safe Holidays
Have a really enjoyable Christmas break with family and friends. We look forward to the opportunities and challenges that next year will bring. Please be safe over the holiday break and have your children ready to take on the opportunities to grow and learn next year at our school.

Brett Hallett
Principal

Senior School

2016 has been another busy year across the Senior Phase of schooling. Our Year 12 students celebrated the end of their schooling careers at their graduation ceremony before venturing out into the world. As a cohort they are to be congratulated on the outstanding results they have achieved with 98.6% of all students attaining their Queensland Certificate of Education. I wish all students the best of luck as they begin their chosen pathways post-school and I look forward to hearing about their adventures.

The end of the year has also seen the election of our new leaders for next year, with School Captains, Rian and Ellie, completing their first official duty as school captains by hosting the Year 12 graduation parade. I look forward to working with all school directors next year and wish them the best of luck with their directorships.

Rachael Redpath
Acting Deputy Principal
Middle School

I would like to say a big thank you to the staff and students of Goondiwindi State High School. The last 6 months have had challenges, but the school and the community have been very supportive and I have enjoyed my time here in Gundy. I have gotten to know the students in Years 9 and 10, who are a great bunch of kids and I will miss them on my return to the coast.

I wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas Holiday and good luck in 2017.

Kind Regards

Vanessa Moller
Acting Deputy Principal

Junior Secondary

2016 has been the second year that all Queensland state schools have taught Years 7 and 8 students. Our programs have gone from strength to strength this year, after carefully reviewing our program from last year. This year, we have had Mr Scott Schultz and Mrs Keisha Kuskie supporting these students as Year Level Coordinators. The two YLCs have been incredible in supporting school participation through different lunch time activities and involvement in community events.

When we first designed the Year 7 program, one of our goals was to increase student exposure and access to music. Every student in Year 7 currently engages in 70 minutes of music per week and students in Year 8 participate in a 10-week block. By including music in this way over the last year 2 years, we have had nearly 40 students select Music in Year 9. This is a testament to the amazing work that had been done by Mrs Leia Jensen and Mr Patrick Logue.

We have reviewed and updated our transition programs to ensure not only Year 6 students, but also students coming to GSHS in Year 9 next year, have had several experiences within GSHS classrooms to make them as prepared as possible to start in 2017.

Before finishing up, I need to acknowledge Mrs Kerrie Corcoran who will be leaving us at the end of the year. Kerrie helped build and shape the Year 7 program from its early inception in 2015 and has been a leader in supporting student development. She will be sorely missed by students, parents and teachers alike and we wish her and her family all the best for the future.

Phill Jenkins
Acting Deputy Principal

Kleinschmidt Memorial Foundation Program

Congratulations to Daniel Gilbert, Louise Forster, Rian Le Roux, Rebecca Pfingst, Michaela Phillips, Bianca Fisher, Bethany Buckle, Chloe Napier, Jenna Frey, Abby Lowe, Brooklyn Green, Chelsea Thompson, Sam Strachan, Kira-Lee Lawrence, Emma McIntosh and Bronte Fisher who are the recipients of the inaugural Kleinschmidt Memorial Foundation Program which will give them the opportunity to attend Griffith University for a trial week in January 2017. Through the generosity of the Kleinschmidt Foundation Trust Fund these students will spend a week at the Gold Coast campus of Griffith University experiencing campus life. They will participate in interactive activities, academic information sessions, demonstrations, workshops and personal and professional development.

The program has been designed by Griffith University purely for the Kleinschmidt Memorial Foundation Program and encompasses the areas of study the successful students nominated interest in, which include criminology, engineering and health.

This new initiative was open for application to all current GSHS Year 11 students.
Learning from the Community

Goondiwindi State High School provides education for all aspects of life after school. Recently, David Sloss from Sloss Real Estate spoke with our Year 12 Prevocational Mathematics students about transitioning into the rental market. He provided students with insights into the rights and responsibilities of tenants and landlords. David also stepped our students through common processes such as bond deposits, rent in advance, maintenance schedules, entering and exiting properties efficiently, and also provided each student with an information pack of relevant documentation.

Thank you to David and Sloss Real Estate for donating their time and expertise to help educate our students.

Teachers Triumph

End of year for GSHS Seniors would not be complete without the traditional Seniors verse Teachers netball game. This competition once again proved to be very enjoyable and entertaining for players and spectators. The teachers won 6-5 and look forward to defending their title against the Seniors of 2017.

Bowling Tips

Year 12 Recreation Studies students were privileged to have Marie from the Goondiwindi Bowls Club to help them with their skills. Our school is always appreciative of this type of support from our local community.

Mass Meeting

Over the past couple of years it has become cust- with the students of St Mary’s Parish School. The young students wished our seniors well as they prepare to enter life after school.

As they sat with the young students, it was a poignant reminder of just how much the seniors have grown and matured.

Looking Back

After 13 years of formal schooling, it is pertinent to look back at ideologies, beliefs and opinions that have influenced your philosophies about life.

For their Senior English assessment, Year 12 students had the opportunity to explore and reflect upon their personal identity, considering the many influences that helped them to arrive at this point.

Most students discovered that writing a memoir was a rewarding task at the end of their schooling, and that reflecting gave them a deeper understanding of who they have become.

Year 12s Think the Drink

Once again, during their last week of school, Year 12 students participated in the annual ‘Think the Drink’ alcohol awareness program. The day started at the Railway Hotel with Dr Charles explaining the short and long term health implications of alcohol use and its effects on young bodies. This session concluded at the Golf Club with talks about the differences between clubs and pubs and the rules and expectations of each.

Throughout the day, students rotated in groups and visited O’Sheas Royal Hotel, The Victoria Hotel and the Queensland Hotel, where they participated in activities with the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Ambulance, Qld Health, Apex, Care Goondiwindi, MacIntyre Security Services and Liquor Licencing. During the day students learnt about liquor licencing, standard drinks, safe partying, hotel regulations, taxi etiquette and security. They had the opportunity to wear alcohol impairment simulation goggles and take on a small obstacle course, which highlighted the effects of alcohol and the potential dangers of driving when under the influence.

The students then had a well-deserved lunch break at the town park with a sausage sizzle (thanks to the Royal Hotel) and a soft drink (thanks to the Qld Hotel). Finally the students all met up at the McIntyre Room of the Royal Hotel for the DVD, “Welcome to our World” which depicted the social and emotional implications that may be involved in hosting a party with alcohol.

Thank you to the Goondiwindi Liquor Accord and Gateway To Training for facilitating and organising this worthwhile program.

Suzie Collins, Youth Services Coordinator

‘Like’ us on facebook

Recognising that many of our students and parents are frequent users of facebook, we are constantly posting to our GSHS facebook page. If you are a facebook user, you can like our page. This has been created 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.
We have been holding enrolment interviews this afternoon for students in Year 6 who are coming to GSHS next year. What a wonderful group of perspective students they are! We look forward to welcoming them next year.

Student Council
Thank you to the Student Council for their active fundraising this year to purchase a volleyball net. Lunchtimes just got a whole lot more active and tomorrow the Year 11s will challenge our teachers to a game.

Helping Where You Can
Mrs Clyne volunteers with the Rotary ‘Days for Girls’ Goondiwindi sewing group each week. Last holidays she and her family travelled to Pokhara in Nepal to the SOS Children’s Village for Orphan and Destitute Tibetan children where she handed over hygiene kits made by Goondiwindi women.

The kits are the solution to ensure that girls have a more dignified, free and educated world and as such have equitable access to schooling. Without the provision of kits, the girls do not have access to full time schooling.

As a History and Geography teacher, Mrs Clyne has certainly had valuable grassroots experience of global social change to share with her classes.
**Music to All Ears**

On Thursday 3 November, “Music: Count Us In” celebrated its 10th year. This program raises much needed awareness about the importance and celebration of music education in schools. On this day, over 600,000 students from more than 2,500 schools sang the same song at the same time. Music: Count Us In achieved record numbers across the board and marked the special day with amazing events all over Australia.

Music: Count Us In’s 2016 Program Song, ‘Let It Play’, rang out across Australia and once again, students from schools all around the country sang with enjoyment and passion, knowing they were a part of a much bigger picture. This year’s Celebration Day was the most successful to date.

Goondiwindi State High School Year 7 students played their part in this celebration day by joining with Goondiwindi State Primary School students. This was a special reunion for the younger children who were thrilled to see their older friends and appreciated the opportunity to share this musical experience with them.

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**Macintyre Young Writers**

Congratulations to the Goondiwindi State High School students who entered writing into the 2016 Macintyre Young Writers Awards. Once again the students in our district entertained and impressed the judges with their literary talents. Well done to all GSHS students who entered and special mention goes to those who were awarded prizes.

Highly Commended Certificates: Zander Pasana, Tully Corcoran, Paige Milligean

Year 9:
Major Awards: Laura Jobling (2), Amber Rose, Imogen Clarence, Maddi Tract, Zoe Hawker, Layton Purcell

Book Prize Winner: Laura Jobling

Highly Commended Certificates: Lydia Heironymus, Isabella Barton, Zoe Hawker, Elizabeth Brown, Jacinta Norman

Year 10:
Major Awards: Matt Gore, Isabella MacDonald, Alia Pasana, Natalie Smith, Jessica White

Highly Commended Certificates: Josie Austin

Year 11:
Major Awards: Breanna Cox, Rian Le Roux, Kirra-Lee Lawrence, Aidan Symonds, Emily Jobling, Evangeline Hamilton

Book Prize Winner: Evangeline Hamilton

Highly Commended Certificates: Chelsea Thompson, Daniel Gilbert, Michellea Phillips, Emily Jobling, Brett Risman, Rebecca Pfingst

Year 12:
Major Awards: Brooke Reid, Ebony Clarence, Toby Jessen, Rebecca Marshall, Eliza Fleming, Carla Doyle, Tiana Runzer, Chloe Hunt, Erin Ellis, Derek Ford

Book Prize Winner: Tiana Runzer

Highly Commended Certificates: Breeanna Littleton, Bree Bate, Jahlise Munro, Sophie Rixon, Caitlin Perriman, Clancy Corcoran, Samuel Stewart, Melanie Scott, Shania McAuley

The following students from our school were the proud recipients of awards in this year’s competition:

**Year 7:**

Major Awards: Charlotte Tattam, Jess Smith, Sophie Heironymus

Highly Commended Certificates: Annabelle Lewis, Molly Cox, Gracie Fairbanks, Maryanne Stratton

**Year 8:**

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Year 12 Art Exhibition

Art teachers Mrs Lesley Hawker and Mrs Cathy Woods were thrilled for the Year 12 Visual Arts Graduation Exhibition “Enigma” to be held in the Goondiwindi Arts Space recently and acknowledged the support of the Goondiwindi Regional Council and their enthusiastic staff.

Mrs Lesley Hawker told the students, “As you have embraced the journey of learning through the arts, the most important lesson you have learned is to question and to reflect on the myriad of possible answers.”

Mrs Bernadette Hawker was asked by the students to act as Master of Ceremonies for the opening and her words were the perfect match for the magnificent display of artwork:

“The students collaboratively developed the theme “Enigma” for their exhibition and what an insightful reflection of this special group and their artistic journey it is.

That’s the challenge of art, of learning, and of life itself and reflects the fact that their artistic learning over the last five years has been a puzzle, a mystery – something that has often been difficult to comprehend and make sense of, yet, to me, when nothing is sure, suddenly everything becomes possible.

We are all incredibly proud of their journey – all the wrong turns, dead ends, road blocks and distractions they have encountered along the way. We are proud of how they have persevered and persisted and how they have used their experience in art to become better people – more empathetic, more intuitive and more compassionate about the puzzling, mysterious, perplexing world around them. We applaud their efforts and congratulate them on all their successes.”

Hands-on Hospitality

In 2016, studying hospitality has given students many opportunities to participate in hands-on catering functions. Both junior and senior students have demonstrated their culinary talents at community-based functions as well as school functions where they have prepared delicious morsels for their peers, teachers and family members. From the senior students’ tapas night, SeaWorld Nara Resort excursion, catering for the eisteddfod and other events, to the peer cafes held by the junior classes, all students have enjoyed Hospitality and learnt many important skills that will be useful in everyday life.

We look forward to tempting tastebuds in 2017!!
Bianca is 2016 Bursary Recipient

The Goondiwindi State High School Student Bursary was established for tertiary bound students to encourage skilled and highly qualified graduates to seek employment in rural communities. The Bursary provides financial support which is structured to provide optimum effectiveness over the first three years of a student’s tertiary course. In return there must be an undertaking that the recipient returns to a rural community for a minimum of two years immediately upon graduation.

We would once again like to congratulate Bianca Hobday who is the winner of the 2016 Goondiwindi State High School Bursary.

Thankyou to the McIntyre Valley Cotton Growers Field Day Committee, the Goondiwindi Regional Council and the Goondiwindi State High School P&C Association for their continued support of this bursary.

STEAM Team Snapshot

The STEAM team at Goondiwindi State High School is committed to improving student writing by developing the capacity of our staff members to teach it effectively across all subject areas. Throughout 2016, teachers have focused on vocabulary development and paragraphing, in particular, in response to needs identified in NAPLAN writing data. This targeted teaching resulted in significant improvements in our NAPLAN writing data in Year 9 for 2016.

Recently, the STEAM team interviewed all the Year 9 students about their NAPLAN writing improvement. Each student was shown individual improvement in writing from Year 7 to Year 9 and was given a detailed and individualised analysis of specific strengths and weaknesses across ten writing criteria. These included spelling, sentence structure, punctuation and cohesion, paragraphing and vocabulary. Students then developed their own writing goals based on this analysis. This will help them to be more aware of what specific elements of writing they need to be working on no matter what subject they are writing in.

These interviews proved to be very successful. The students really enjoyed seeing their level of improvement and this has motivated many of them to continue working hard to improve their writing abilities.

Making Modules in ITD

ITD has been enhanced in 2016 by the addition of our Trade Training Centre. Students have embraced the opportunity to work with state-of-the-art machinery and tools to complete many useful projects.

Year 8 Students have been introduced to woodworking skills and machinery while making timber moneyboxes with acrylic bowls. This year, students in Year 9 completed timber carry-alls and are finishing off making folding camp stools.

Year 10 students have been making barbecue spatulas and timber coffee tables, while Years 11 and 12 have finished their chilly bins.

All students have enjoyed the challenges of hands-on learning in ITD and are always keen to take their finished projects home.
I Aspire
I Achieve

REMINDERS
STUDENT ABSENCE LINE
4670 0366

Ukurrie

Once all resources have been returned to the iCentre and 2016 outstanding payments are settled at the office, students may collect a free copy of the school magazine.

SCHOOL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM
CLINIC SCHEDULE 2017

Students who miss any doses of vaccine at school are eligible to receive their missing doses up to the end of the following year. Vaccinations not completed in this time frame will need to be purchased with private prescription.

P & C Meeting

Our next P & C Meeting will be the AGM on 28th February
All are encouraged to attend.

The 2017 Student Resource Scheme will remain at $240 per year ($60 per Term). If the yearly amount is paid in full before 10 February 2017, the discounted yearly total will be $200.

G O O N D I W I N D I
H I G H  S C H O O L
H A P P E N I N G S

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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.

Thank you to Sue, Leisa, Norma and volunteer helpers for your pleasant and caring service and nourishing food throughout the year. You all do an amazing job and it does not go unappreciated.

SCHOOL IMMUNISATION PROGRAM
CLINIC SCHEDULE 2017

First visit

Tuesday 21 March 2017
All Yr 7 Students
HPV
Boostrix

Second Visit

Tuesday 23 May 2017
All Yr 7 Students
HPV

Third Visit

Thursday 12 October 2017
All Yr 7 Students
HPV

Diseases

Scheduled Dose

Human papillomavirus (HPV)
3 doses – 0, 2 and 6 months

Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough (Boostrix)
1 dose

missing doses up to the end of the following year. Vaccinations not completed in this time frame will need to be purchased with private prescription.

Farewell from Chaplain Anna

What a fantastic year it has been! Thank you so much for welcoming me into your community here at GSHS. I have loved getting to know you and getting involved in all the different activities that happen around the school. From preparing school break- fasts, helping students deliver Meals on Wheels, assisting students in classes and dressing up with staff members on special occasions, to coordinating the successful operation of the annual Operation Christmas Child appeal, my experiences as school chap- lain have been very rewarding.

I won’t be back next year, but I will still be around town so I look forward to catching up when I can.

I know you are all excited to welcome Sonia back when she returns from maternity leave.

Happy Holidays
Anna Pateman
School Chaplain