**From the Principal’s Desk**

**Buildings for Goondiwindi State High**

Next Year we will see the completed construction of two new buildings. Our new Trade Skills Centre for Agriculture and Engineering and a new Student Support Building to provide learning spaces for students with support needs. These two major projects will see over 2 million dollars’ worth of new facilities introduced to our school in 2016. This additional infrastructure will allow us greater flexibility and new quality resources to support learning opportunities for students.

**BYOD**

There will be some major changes in 2016 to the way students access technology for learning in Queensland schools.

Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) is a new pathway supporting the delivery of 21st Century learning in our schools. Students are encouraged to bring their own laptops to access the school network and information systems.

BYOD is open to students in all year levels but particularly those in Years 10 and 11. The 1 to 1 Laptop Program for Year 12 students will be phased out at the end of 2016 due to cuts in Government funding. Further information is available on our website.

**Farewell - Year 12s**

After five years we have developed relationships with the Year 12 students and their parents, we have helped the students through hard times, shared numerous differences of opinions, and have experienced events or activities together where we have shared the opportunity to learn and grow. We wish this cohort of Year 12 students all the best as they move into employment or further education. We know that if you utilise all you have learnt from your parents and teachers you will be very well placed to achieve your goals in the future. We look forward to celebrating with you this milestone event.

**Enrolment Interviews**

Enrolment Interviews for all students will take place in the iCentre on Thursday 12 November from 2:00pm to 7:00pm. Please either contact our office or use our online booking form through SOBS. The appropriate website address is: www.sobsone.com.au

**Policy and Practice Changes**

Next year there will be continued changes in policy and practice as we continue to implement Junior Secondary at High School. There are a few changes that I want to highlight once again before next year.

Firstly mobile phones will not be allowed for students in Years 7, 8 and 9 in 2016. This policy will mean there will be different expectations between the Junior Secondary students and the Senior Phase students.

School Hats will also be required to be worn as an extension to the schools uniform policy as has been the practice this year. Hats are available from the school office and there is a choice between a cap and a bucket hat style. All other hats and caps will not be welcome.

**Awards Night**

Last week our school community celebrated the individual achievements of our students at our annual Awards Ceremony. I believe the revised format for the evening was widely received very well.

We would like to congratulate all of our students who were recognised for their academic, sporting and cultural achievements. To our special awards winners, we are proud to have shared your moment in recognition of your outstanding efforts.

**2016 School Leaders**

I would like to thank Kara Nosworthy, Rick Kearney and Alison Bishop for assisting me in the very difficult process of interviewing applicants for Formal School Leadership positions for next year. I would also like to acknowledge the maturity of all of the students involved in the process.

**From the Principal’s Desk**

Our school leaders for 2016 are:

- **Sports Directors:** Caitlin Bussell and Bailey Soper
- **Social Director:** Mikaylah O’Toole
- **Pride Director:** Breanna Bate
- **Finance Director:** Sophie Roxon
- **Cultural Director:** Clancy Corcoran
- **School Captains:** Lane McNaughton and Derek Ford
- **Principal:** Brett Hallett
2015 Awards Night

Our 2015 annual Awards night was once again an outstanding celebration of the achievements of students at Goondiwindi State High School. This year saw a restructure of our Awards night with the introduction of Gold and Silver levelled awards across Academic, Sporting, Cultural and Citizenship categories.

Special Award Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Winner</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Phil O’Shea/Bi-Rite Electrical Duncan Wilkes Memorial Encouragement Award for Instrumental Music</td>
<td>Rebecca Pfingst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil O’Shea/Bi-Rite Electrical Duncan Wilkes Memorial Excellence Award for Instrumental Music</td>
<td>Zoe Lwin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mick O’Shea Memorial Junior Hospitality Award</td>
<td>Emma McIntosh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gibbs Family Senior Excellence in Hospitality Award</td>
<td>Alexis Robinson</td>
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<tr>
<td>UQ Community &amp; Leadership Award</td>
<td>Madelyn Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gateway to Training Trainee of the Year - Off the Job</td>
<td>Dann Millewski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gateway to Training Trainee of the Year - On the Job</td>
<td>Tom Andersen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian Defence Force Leadership and Teamwork Award Year 10</td>
<td>Bronte Fisher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian Defence Force Leadership and Teamwork Award Year 12</td>
<td>Nicole Edmonds</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bishops Newsxpress Cultural Award for Excellence in the Arts</td>
<td>Ally Rowe</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Apprenticeship Company Sportsman of the Year</td>
<td>Nick Brown</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Apprenticeship Company Sportswoman of the Year</td>
<td>Elle Leathy</td>
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<tr>
<td>GSHS Spirit Award Year 10</td>
<td>Ally Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>GSHS Spirit Award Year 12</td>
<td>Sophie Burdett</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bio Nutrient Solutions Junior Rural Award</td>
<td>Brett Rissmann</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bio Nutrient Solutions Senior Rural Award</td>
<td>Dann Millewski</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crowe Horwath Outstanding Performance Yr 10 Business</td>
<td>Xander Naismith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marilyn Sinclair Outstanding Performance Year 12 Business</td>
<td>Geillie Cano</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Cathy Mullins Shield Achievement by an Indigenous Student</td>
<td>Carissa Turnbull and Tasman Timms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chesterfield Australia Yr 10 ITD Encouragement Award</td>
<td>Rian Le Roux</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mackenzies Home Timber &amp; Hardware Year 12 ITD Encouragement Award</td>
<td>Sam Turvey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tafe South West Outstanding Vocational Student</td>
<td>Danielle McElheran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Springborg MP Year 7 Bursary</td>
<td>Sophie Lewis and Paige Milligean</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andersen Truck &amp; Tractor All Rounder Awards:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Paige Milligean</td>
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<td>Year 8</td>
<td>Elizabeth Brown</td>
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<td>Year 9</td>
<td>Emma McNaughton</td>
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<td>Year 10</td>
<td>Emily Jobling</td>
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<td>Year 11</td>
<td>Toby Jessen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Caltex Australia Year 12 All Rounder</td>
<td>Zoe Leahy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialised Farm Machinery Vocational Dux</td>
<td>Shannara Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowes Petroleum Junior Dux</td>
<td>Stefanie Lwin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lowes Petroleum Senior Dux</td>
<td>Geillie Cano</td>
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</tbody>
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We thank all sponsors for their continued support and commend our 2015 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.

Racheal Redpath, Acting Deputy Principal

Transition Days & Enrolment Interviews

In Week 9 of this Term, we are having our annual transition days. Our feeder schools will be sending their Year 6 students to experience what high school is all about. Our teachers will be carefully designing fun and engaging lessons, which will accurately reflect what life is like in your first year at Goondiwindi State High School. Students will meet the 2016 Year 7 Team, learn where our buildings and facilities are, learn our bell times and lots of other information and skills which will help ease the anxieties of students (and parents) transitioning to high school next year. This day is open to any Year 6 student in the cluster, not just those who are coming to GSHS next year.

This year we will be conducting a dual transition day, with Year 6 students meeting the Year 7 teachers and our current Year 7 students engaging in curriculum lessons with different teachers all over the school. Our Year 7 students will learn how to read a timetable and transition between classrooms/subjects.

For any student who is looking to enrol in any year level for 2016, we are hosting a student enrolment night on Thursday 12 November from 2pm to 7pm in the iCentre. Please book online at www.sobs.com.au or alternatively, ring the school to make a booking.

Phil Jenkins
Acting Deputy Principal
AFL Girls in the Spotlight

Recently, two Goondiwindi State High School students, Felicity Ash and Jess Bell, were selected to represent the Darling Downs Under 17 girls in AFL. Over four days, the girls played in the Darling Downs team at the State Championships in Brisbane. As women’s AFL is predicted to become professional by 2017, this really puts our girls in the spotlight. Jess has now been selected in the Queensland Youth Girls Academy for 2016 (Under 17 Qld AFL team). For this, 70 girls were selected from 270 competitors. Jess will now attend training to try out for selection in the top 20 to play in the Queensland State Team next year.

Year 12s Give Polished Performances

On the evening of 15 September at the Goondiwindi Cultural Centre, Year 12 Drama students presented their final group acting piece to the public. Parents, teachers and peers enjoyed an evening of theatre that was sourced, cast, rehearsed and presented entirely by the students. Scenes ranged from contemporary Australian Realism to Shakespeare, from middle England comedy to Absurdism. 14 actors performed on the night, each giving the best performance they had yet created. From Irish and American accents to the southern drawl of the southern United States and the tongue trippingly wonderful language of Shakespeare, our students positively wowed us all.

Performing on the night were Tom Death, Marcia Barnes, Beth Brennan, Zoe Lwin, Sophie Raymond, Connor Graham, Christine Hartmann, Lachlan Smith, Matilda Chapman, Claire Magann, Will Thompson, Keeley OTtools, Nick Corcoran and Ally Rowe. Well done to all.

Steve Leadbetter
Drama Teacher

Students Unite

Some of our GSHS Year 12 students recently attended Mass with St Mary's School students and celebrated their graduation with a delightful service.

Thank you St Mary's for this beautiful gesture which not only reminded our students how far they have come, but also hopefully served to inspire your young students.

It will no doubt remain a lovely memory for our graduating class.

Steve Leadbetter
Year 12 Coordinator

Chappy Chat

All my established Chaplaincy events are ongoing, including Homework Hub, monthly Meals on Wheels delivery, gym sessions on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at the PCYC from 7am until 8am, and also school breakfasts two mornings a week.

One other event that we have just completed is the Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Appeal. I would like to thank all those students and staff members who contributed items to the shoeboxes. A special mention to those students who filled their own shoeboxes for the cause. Also I greatly appreciate the assistance from Helen Neill in checking the boxes. Thanks also to all those students who packed boxes and wrote Christmas cards to be sent. We will have sent at least 128 shoeboxes.

Sonia Frost
Chaplain

Masterly Mathematicians

The Australian Mathematics Competition which is sponsored by the Commonwealth Bank was conducted in July of this year. For the first time, only students from Year 7 to Year 10 took part.

All students in Maths Extension classes in these years as well as the top 20 Year 7 maths students, completed the test. The test covers all content studied at school in a one lesson multiple-choice short answer test.

We had amazing results with twenty percent of our students receiving results of a Credit. These awards will be awarded on a Parade in the near future when the certificates arrive.

Congratulations to all students who participated and to those who received such commendable results.

Julie Chapman
Mathematics SAC

‘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.
Goondiwindi State High School celebrated its annual Expressive Arts Week from 20 to 23 October. This year’s theme was ‘Breaking the Box’ and students certainly did that by trying all manner of new expressive endeavours with a selection of professional tutors including Tai Chi Master Neal Webb, Chinese Dragon Dance Master Tom Lo, NIDA Tutor Louise Bezel, improvisational guitarist Wes Taylor, local Indigenous artist Cheryl Moggs and the incredible Upatree Arts Collective who created gigantic illuminated puppets with students.

The entire week of Expressive Arts provided colour, creativity, craziness and craft while embracing curriculum links and learning experiences.

Students created and were entertained over the week by a series of dynamic events; an incredible opening parade featuring talented GSHS actors, dancers and musicians; the vibrant Burning Poetry evening featuring students’ live, original poetry as well as Energy Entertainment and their amazing fire act; a well-contested dress-up competition between the Years 11s and 12s; an hilarious theatre sports session and Friday’s wrap-up – the Battle of the Bands.

Lunchtimes were filled with craft activities, busking, face painting and lively games of slip ‘n’ slide softball. Community involvement was strong with many locals attending the opening parade, Burning Poetry and Battle of the Bands, but most supportively through sponsorship and time from Goondiwindi Regional Council, Mann’s Transport, Mr Phil O’Shea, Mr Lew Verney, Goondiwindi Cotton and Apex Goondiwindi. GSHS – its students, staff and administration – continue to embrace and enhance arts experiences for their students.
Friday Dress-Off

On Friday morning, Years 11 and 12 delighted the whole school community with their costumes and antics at the annual Seniors dress-off!

Many of the costumes appeared to provide insight into the students' alter egos.

Battle of the Bands

On Wednesday night in EAW, “Burning Poetry 2015 was held. Poetry, monologues and short stories were presented by our students, staff and community members.

The audience also enjoyed drama, musical and artistic performances throughout the night. Café @ High prepared delicious dishes and dessert for the enthusiastic crowd.
The students of the Goondiwindi State High School Instrumental Music and Classroom Music Programs have been very busy the past few weeks with Expressive Arts Week, Awards Night, ‘Music Count Us In’ and The Cultural Echo Festival. Here is a wrap up of the events from the past few weeks.

**EAW**

Students from the Instrumental Program displayed both their dedication to music and the talent they have, throughout Expressive Arts Week. They provided the school with entertainment during morning tea times with busking, played up a storm with ‘Funky Town’ during the Opening Parade, and demonstrated true musicianship during Battle of the Bands.

Congratulations to the Show Band and Senior Band for all your hard work during this eventful week of the school calendar!

**Music Count Us In**

The Show Band, Senior Band and the Year 7 students attended Goondiwindi State Primary School to provide the students with music for the annual ‘Music Count Us In’ initiative. Music Count Us In (MCUI) is Australia’s biggest school musical initiative, with more than 500,000 students from over 2,100 schools participating nationwide, bringing celebration. The initiative involves half a million people uniting to sing the same song at the same time, right across the country. The students of the primary school and our Year 7’s sang along as the Show Band played the annual song, “Gold”. The performance of ‘Gold’ was also joined by a concert from all students involved in both the High School and Primary School Instrumental Programs. Congratulations to all the instrumental music students and the Year 7’s who provided their time and talent for this amazing event.

**School Bands Perform at Awards Night**

GSHS annual Awards Night was enhanced by the contribution made by our school bands. Congratulations to both the Senior Band and the Show Band for outstanding performances of The National Anthem, ‘Happy’ and ‘The Golden Wedding’. Many staff members, parents and guests at the ceremony commended the bands’ talent and the high quality of performances.

**Echo Cultural Festival**

The Show Band and the Senior Band once again demonstrated their passion, talent and dedication for music on 7 November with their performance at the Echo Cultural Centre, held at the Goondiwindi Water Park. Our Show Band performed ‘Happy’ and ‘Funky Town’ and our Senior Band performed ‘Build me up Buttercup’ and ‘The Golden Wedding’. The audience loved seeing the high school students show the community what they are capable of and they received many favourable comments.

Leia Jensen
Instrumental Music Teacher
Insight into the Trenches

Year 9 History classes had the opportunity to experience a little of the discomfort felt by our soldiers and to gain insight into what their lives were like, while learning about World War I. They were given the opportunity to re-create trenches in the classroom or outside and after a bit of fun in 'friendly fire' one class spent half the lesson squashed in this position to emulate the uncomfortable and ordinary conditions our soldiers endured.

This activity provided a more realistic way for the students to learn and gave them the opportunity to develop a genuine empathy for our forebears.

Mel Smith
SOSE Coordinator

University of Queensland Young Achievers

On Monday 2 November, representatives from the University of Queensland celebrated the graduation of Tasman Timms and Sarah Buchanan from the UQ Young Achievers Program 2015.

Tasman and Sarah participated in university camps, challenges and Open Days where they were able to experience life as a university student, as well as being given the opportunity to develop leadership skills, whilst realising their potential and identifying possible future pathways.

Congratulations to Emily Jobling and Ellie Billsborough for being successful in their application into the UQ Young Achievers Program for 2016 and 2017. Emily and Ellie 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

Excellence in the Arts

The Creative Generation Awards in Visual Arts is an annual competition which recognises and promotes the creative achievements of senior art students from both state and non-state schools in Queensland.

The Creative Generations Awards in Visual Arts features two major award categories:

Regional Exhibition: This involves the selection of student artworks to be exhibited at regional galleries across the State. At this level, 500 students state-wide are selected from a pool of 1600 senior art students.

State Exhibition: This involves a panel of selected artists to identify 30 outstanding artworks to become part of a state exhibition which will be hung in the Gallery of Modern Art (GOMA) Brisbane.

This year, four Goondiwindi State High School senior artworks were selected for Regional Exhibition at the Toowoomba Regional Art Gallery (TRAG). These works were produced by art students Marcia Barnes, Claire Magann, Ally Rowe and Sophie Raymond. Our four participants, along with their peers, recently travelled to Toowoomba for the formal opening of and award ceremony for the 2015 Creative Generations Awards in Visual Arts Exhibition.

Furtheing Goondiwindi State High School's success at the 2015 Creative Generations in Visual Arts Awards, it was announced at the regional opening that student works by Ally Rowe and Sophie Raymond have been selected from 500 others, to be part of the Creative Generations State Exhibition. The two selected artworks will travel to Brisbane later this year to be hung alongside other world renowned artists in the Gallery of Modern Art. Students will then have their exhibition officially opened by the Queensland Premier early in 2016.

Congratulations to all students involved in this event. Your representation and selection in such a prestigious annual event is a credit to your academic commitments and cultural explorations. Well done!

Cathy Woods
Art Teacher
Join the Green Army
Opportunities for School Leavers and Gap Year Students
Manpower are recruiting participants for Green Army projects in your area.
Green Army is a hands-on, practical environmental action programme that supports local environment and heritage conservation projects across Australia. Green Army is open to all Australian citizens and permanent residents aged between 17-24 years.
Joining a Green Army team will provide you with skills, training and experience to improve your employment prospects while you work on projects that generate real and lasting benefits for the environment and Australian heritage sites.
- Work for up to 30 hours a week for 20-25 weeks
- Receive training in First Aid and Work Health and Safety, as well as support to obtain Certificate II qualifications or a nationally recognised skills set
- Undertake a range of activities from planting native seedlings, constructing boardwalks, protecting native wildlife, firefights or beach restoration, to regeneration of local parks
- Transport, clothing, boots and safety gear provided

Start your application online:
manpower.com.au/greenarmy

For more information call 1300 725 937

Follow us on Facebook and see the Green Army in action:
facebook.com/greenarmymanpower

REMINDERS
STUDENT ABSENCE LINE
4670 0366
Please remember to notify the school of any student absences.
Students are reminded to keep up to date with work, catch up on any missed work and not to miss assessment, to avoid a negative affect on achievement.

P & C Meeting
Our next P & C Meeting will be held on 24 November.
All are welcome to attend.

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.

New site for parents
http://www.qtc.edu.au/forparents
- get useful hints and tips to help your child.
- find out when to start planning.
- choose the right course and institution.
- check out how to apply.
- investigate support services.

LAPTOPS for 2016
Current Year 11 students are reminded that the 2016 annual Laptop Fee of $90 needs to be paid before the end of Term in order to be able to keep the laptops over the holidays.

School Clothing Pool
If you have any articles of school clothing that your child no longer requires, please consider donating them to our clothing pool. We have some students at the moment who are having difficulty accessing uniforms, especially formal uniform.

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.
For more information visit:

Settling Accounts
Any outstanding accounts for 2015 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”.

GOONDWINDI
‘HIGH SCHOOL HAPENINGS’