School Calendar 2015

TERM 2

Tuesday 5 May
Musical Excursion - Sydney

Wednesday 6 May
HSC Study Day at Singleton

Thursday 7 May
Excellence Assembly 12noon to 1pm
MAD Night 7pm

Monday 11 to Friday 16 May
Wingham Beef Week

Tuesday 13 to Thursday 14 May
NAPLAN

Monday 18 May
Year 11 Mid-course Examination

Tuesday 19 May
ICAS - Digital Technologies

Friday 22 May
Engineering Challenge - Year 10 Science
Red Shield Appeal

Monday 25 May
Year 7 and 8 Examinations

Friday 29 May
Zone Athletics

Monday 1 June
Year 9-10 Examinations

Wednesday 3 June
ICAS - Science Examination
Year 11 and 12 First Aid Course

CANTEEN

Phone 65589963

Monday 4 May
Elena

Tuesday 5 May
Nikki Durbridge

Wednesday 6 May
Alison Ward

Thursday 7 May
Kylie Johnston

Friday 8 May
Elena

Monday 11 May
Elena

Tuesday 12 May
Jennie Smith

Wednesday 13 May
Reena Skelton

Thursday 14 May
Elena

Friday 15 May
Rachael Blanch

GREAT TEACHING, INSPIRED LEARNING

Sustainability is now a cross-curriculum priority in the NSW syllabus. This means that it is a requirement of the Department that sustainability be introduced to as many teaching areas as possible. So where do we start? Firstly by identifying what is meant by sustainability and secondly identifying where its practice can be implemented.

Merriam-Webster defines “sustainable” as something being “able to be used without being completely used up or destroyed”, “involving methods that do not completely use up or destroy natural resources” and “able to last or continue for a long time”. There are many resources currently used by our consumer-driven society that are finite in the short term. This includes fresh water, oil, natural gas, phosphorous, coal and rare earth metals. The other side of the problem is the waste generated from the manufacture and use of these products.

How does this fit into the syllabus?

It is important that students recognise that they have a responsibility to preserve the environment for both their future and the future of the generations to come. This is usually met with a strong reaction of “it wasn’t me, I didn’t do it” and, as they get older “I’m just one person, what difference can I make?” This is where introducing sustainability programs in schools can make a difference to how students perceive the problem and how they can confidently understand how each and every person’s contribution can be worthwhile.

Gloucester High School has joined an international project called “Eco-Schools” which, although new to Australia, involves 40,000 schools worldwide and has been operating for over 20 years. The program fosters positive environmental behaviours amongst students and community. Eco projects and themes are integrated into curriculum which increases students’ knowledge of
I’m back! Having spent the last month travelling with my wife around Japan and Hong Kong, it is good to be back. We certainly take for granted the wide open spaces (which are hard to find in Japan) and the clean fresh air (which is impossible to find in Hong Kong!) living, as we do, in a beautiful and relatively less rushed situation.

I sometimes talk about doing things that are outside of your normal experience, beyond your comfort zone. One particular situation that I experienced in Japan really emphasised this important aspect of learning. Imagine if you saw a couple of people who were obviously from another country wandering around looking a bit lost in Gloucester. What would you do? Would you struggle with assisting even though you knew your grasp of their language was probably close to non-existent? Or would you just try to ignore the possibility of an uncomfortable attempt at conversation, and just keep walking? Well, this happened to us in the small town of Takayama. To our surprise, we were approached over a couple of hours by several groups of high schools students who, though struggling with English, asked us questions and gave us information about their town and their district. Sure, they were practising the language as part of their school studies and were being supported by their teacher, but I’m also sure that this was a very hard thing for them to do – especially when they found out that I was a School Principal! I learnt about the Sarubobo (or Baby Monkey) that was a small toy that brings good fortune, much money and smooth childbirth! (I don’t know about the third one, but the first two sound great!) I also learned what a great gift it is to see someone new to your land and to try your best to make them feel welcome, even if you don’t speak the same language. I would hope that I’d have the same thoughtfulness and kindness if the situation was reversed.

On another note, there have been some staff changes since the end of last term. Ms Trudi Edman has been successful in gaining a relieving Deputy Principal’s position for the rest of this year at Chatham High School, where I know she’ll do a tremendous job. She has been ably replaced by Ms Myree Ribbons. Ms Sybylla Anderson has also been successful in gaining a fulltime position, and has been replaced by Ms Tess Nolan.

**PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

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**INFORMATION UPDATE REQUEST - 2015**

Thank you to all the parents who have completed their child’s Student Information Update Request and returned it to the office. **It is essential that you advise us of any information changes about your child/children’s circumstances so we can keep our records up to date.**

Thank you for taking the time to update your child’s records. The completed forms can be returned to their roll call teacher, or you can email, fax or post them as soon as possible.
VOLUNTEERING

Each year Gloucester High School is involved in a wide range of community service activities to support causes as diverse as raising money to cure cancer to helping those less fortunate than ourselves with food and clothing.

Red Shield Appeal has been supported by our students for many years. The doorknock fund raising appeal on May 30 and 31 is a worthy cause. Students in Years 10, 11 and 12 are welcome to apply to take part. A representative of the Salvos will soon address the school assembly and provide additional information for parents and students. Volunteers will be issued with a Certificate of Appreciation which is a useful addition to a resume.

Mr Mike King

OPPORTUNITY ARisen

Students, Staff and Parents

I didn’t get an opportunity to say goodbye to my classes and the students with whom I was working with on whole school programs. The last day of Term 1, I was offered and accepted a Relieving Deputy Principal position at Chatham High School until the end of the year. To my Hospitality classes, we are very fortunate to have Ms Ribbons offer to come back to GHS to guide you through the course. I wish you every success in your studies and best wishes to Year 12 students for the HSC and future endeavours.

To GHS staff, I’m sorry that I was unable to attend the Staff Development Day and catch up with you to let you know about this offer I accepted. The Expression Of Interest process happened rather quickly and we were most fortunate to have Ms Myree Ribbons who is a qualified Hospitality Teacher and was willing to relieve at Gloucester High School. Best wishes to you all for the rest of the year and in particular, to all the staff, students and parents involved in the Musical.

Mrs Trudi Edman

EXCELLENCE ASSEMBLY

This assembly will take place in the school hall on Thursday, 7 May 2015. The assembly will commence at approximately 12 noon and will conclude at approximately 1:00 pm. We would ask you to be at the school hall at 11:45 am, in order for you to be seated before the students. To ease congestion, we request that parents and guests enter via the car park entry door. Recognising the positive contributions that students make is a vitally important way the school can promote excellence and encourage our school motto “Strive to Excel”. We look forward to your attendance.

Mr Mike King

HSC SEMINAR DAY

Year 12 have the opportunity to attend a HSC Seminar Day at Singleton on Friday 29 May. The cost of the excursion is $78. The cost includes a registration fee of $50 and $28 for the school bus. We will be leaving school at 6:30am and return around 8pm. The first session begins at 9:50am and the last session finishes at 4:50pm. Students should bring water, recess and have the choice of bringing their own lunch or money to purchase food on the day. Permission notes and money need to be in by Monday 4 May to confirm registration numbers.

Ms Sue Keirstead

AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Students from all years are encouraged to enter this competition which will be held later this year, but students need to enter now. All participants receive a certificate which can be added to their portfolio for future employers to see. Cost $6. If you would like to participate please pay at the Front Office.

Mr Philip Dowle
TIPS ON SURVIVING HIGH SCHOOL LIFE

Did you know we have Eftpos facilities here at school?
Having problems getting in to pay for your child’s excursion or school fees?
Just give us a call and we can pay their fees over the phone. Call 65581605.

LES MISERABLES EXCURSION
Cast members have the opportunity to attend a musical theatre workshop to enhance skills in preparation for this year’s school musical. The workshop will take place at NIDA (National Institute of Dramatic Art). This will be followed by a viewing of Broadway’s hit stage musical, Les Miserables. This internationally acclaimed production is being staged at Sydney’s historic Capitol Theatre.

Students will depart school at 9:00am Tuesday 5 May and return at approximately 1:00am Wednesday 6 May. The cost is $110 per student. Additional funds (no more than $30) will be required for meals during the day. Students will need to wear appropriate attire for the musical theatre workshop before changing into smart casual wear for the theatre performance. You are able to contact me during the excursion on 0400124776.

Parents are welcome to come along. All permission notes and money need to be returned to the office by Friday 1 May.
If you have any problems or concerns please don’t hesitate to contact me at school on 65581605.

Mr Scott Davis

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATIVE PICTURE BOOKS
Kindly donated by Gloucester Women’s Bowling Club. Both books give readers something substantial to think about, and both are beautifully crafted tales that will challenge adults and children alike.

One Minute’s Silence by David Metzenthen
In One Minute’s Silence you can imagine sprinting up the beach in Gallipoli in 1915 with the fierce fighting Diggers, but can you imagine standing beside the brave battling Turks as they defended their homeland from the cliffs above... In the silence that follows a war long gone, you can see what the soldiers saw, you can feel what the soldiers felt. And if you try, you might be able to imagine the enemy, and see that he is not so different from you... A moving and powerful reflection on the meaning of Remembrance Day.

The Treasure Box by Margaret Wild & Freya Blackwood
From two of our most talented picture-book creators comes this celebration of things that can’t be destroyed by bombs or fire: the power of words, the importance of stories and the resilience of the human spirit. When the enemy bombed the library, everything burned. As war rages, Peter and his father flee their home, taking with them a treasure box that holds something more precious than jewels. They journey through mud and rain and long cold nights, and soon their survival becomes more important than any possessions they carry. But as the years go by, Peter never forgets the treasure box, and one day he returns to find it...

SCHOLASTIC - Book Club
Pick up your Book Club Catalogue Order (Issue 3) from the LIBRARY.
Orders for this issue need to be returned and paid for at the Front Office by 8/5/2015
SEUSSICAL TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE
Available from the Front Office. Come in or book your ticket over the phone using your EFTOPS facility.

A Gloucester High School Production

Matinee - 12 Noon
Wednesday 17 June
Thursday 18 June

Evening - 7:30 PM
Wednesday 17 June
Friday 19 June
Saturday 20 June

Adult: $10.00
Concession: $6.00
Family: $26.00

Music by
STEPHEN FLAHERTY

Lyrics by
LYNN AHRENS

Book by LYNN AHRENS and STEPHEN FLAHERTY
Co-Conceived by LYNN AHRENS, STEPHEN FLAHERTY and ERIC IDLE
Based on the Works of DR. SEUSS

by arrangement with Hal Leonard Australia Pty Ltd
Exclusive agent for Music Theatre International (NY)

2015 MUSICAL PROFILE

Who: Liam Chester
Role: General Genghis Khan Schmitz
Musical experience: I was in the musical ‘Hairspray’ when I was in Year 7 as Seaweed.
Favourite musical: Probably Wicked.
What are your first impressions of the play? My first impressions were that it would be very challenging to do.
What do you think will be the challenges in staging the show? Probably the costumes and where everything is going to be put on stage.
What are you looking forward to most? Performing the play
How are rehearsals going? Rehearsals are going really well and I’m enjoying it.

SRC PROFILE

Name: Harrison Bird
Year Group: 10
Time as an SRC Member: 1 year
Biggest Inspiration? My Parents
What do you enjoy about being an SRC Member? Everything
Whats great about GHS? No one knows about it
Where do you see yourself in ten years? 25 years old and a Architect at the Gold Coast

Diverse educational programs that challenge and inspire students
ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

Gloucester High School held its annual Athletics Carnival on Wednesday in beautiful conditions at the Kay Green Memorial track. Student attendance and participation were excellent with some fantastic results achieved. In particular, a 20 year old record was broken by Charlotte Maslen in the 13 years Girls discus event. Charlotte threw 22.14m, which bettered the mark set of 20.10m by Harriata Ambrosoli back in 1995. Well done Charlotte! A list of age champions and runners up for the day below:

Age Champions
U/12  Lleyton Richards and Shaylee Ellis  
U/13  Cameron Dunlop and Bronte Wisely  
U/14  Seamus Burke and Ella Blamires  
U/15  Harrison Clarke and Olivia Allardice  
U/16  Blake Steadman and Tia Dougherty  
U/17+ Ryan Yates and Natalie Schneider  

Runners Up
Owen Tomlinson and Holly Willis  
Leon Mackintosh and Charlotte Maslen  
Jacob Sopher and Tahnee Yates/Jessica Moore  
Jacob Bird and Tayla Predebon  
Max Hoggett and Rashelle Franks/Emmeline Moulds  
Ethan Hamilton and Laura Bignell/Isabelle Snowdon  

Champion of Champions
Male - Harrison Clarke (champion of champions) and Lachlan Clarke (runner up)  
Female – Holly Willis (champion of champions) and Bronte Wisely (runner up)  

For students who have qualified for the Zone Carnival, it will be held at Tuncurry on Friday 29 May.

ZONE X-COUNTRY

A keen team of runners travelled to Wingham on Tuesday to compete in the Zone X-Country. All students ran very well with some outstanding results. In the 12 years Boys section Lleyton Richards came home 1st running the 3.5km course in 12 minutes. In the 12 years Girls division Holly Willis came 6th. In the 14 year girls section Gloucester had 3 runners with Sian Hoggett finishing 3rd, Tahnee Yates finishing 5th and Paula Edwards 12th. Andrew Hughes and Clay Boorer entered the 15 year Boys finishing 9th and 10th respectively. 

Congratulations to Lleyton, Holly, Sian and Tahnee who have all qualified for the Hunter X-Country to be held at Broadmeadow on Friday 8 May. Good luck!

Mr Adam Cameron

AUDITION FOR CAPERS 2015

On Tuesday, Hanu and I went to a two-day Vocal Performance Workshop in Tamworth at the Conservatorium of Music. We worked with singer Robert McDougall who is performing in Les Miserables as Javert. He has also performed at many School Spectaculars and CAPERS (Creative Arts Public Schools Regional Spectacular) concerts. He has an incredible voice and he shared lots of great advice. It was really interesting learning from someone classically trained.During our two days we were taught techniques to help with warm up and vocal practice. We each performed an audition for CAPERS 2015. We were told to bring our ‘suit of armour’ as each performance was critiqued and constructive advice was given to help us improve. Hanu sang beautifully and I learnt so much as well. We don’t know whether we have been chosen to perform at CAPERS as yet, but either way we had a fantastic time.

Grace Forrester
On the last week of Term 1, Hanu Barff, Grace Forrester, Nina Samson, Jordan Dunn, Sophie Dunn and I travelled to Tamworth to attend the “New England Vocal Camp” that was being held at Lake Keepit.

We were all introduced to our conductor Dane Ropa and we immediately started rehearsing. We would rehearse three times a day for three hours each session. At the end of each day, we played games and held concerts for us all to show off our talent in solo or group performances. After three days of full on and tiring rehearsals, our parents travelled to Lake Keepit to attend a small concert that was held to show off what we did at the camp. After the concert was finished, we said goodbye to all our friends we made and left to come home. I learnt so much that week that I had never even heard of. I will definitely go back next year as it was a very fun experience.

Liam Chester

The following students will be performing at this year’s Speech and Drama Section of the Taree Eisteddfod on the following dates. The entry fee is in brackets following their name:

MONDAY MAY 25 – 10:00am
Olhanu Barff ($3.00), Rashelle Franks ($3.00), Kimberley Mitchell ($3.00), Lily Nixon ($3.00), Patrick Skelton ($3.00), Jordan Dunn ($3.75), Maddie Eveleigh ($3.75), Erika Hughes ($3.75), Josh Wilson ($3.75).

MONDAY MAY 25 – 6:30pm
Hannah Feeney ($9.00), Chloe Haynes ($9.00), Jaimi White ($9.00), Rose Windred ($9.00).

TUESDAY MAY 26 – 10:00am
Mia Bowden ($5.00), Holly Haynes ($5.00), Ruby Pippen ($5.00).

TUESDAY MAY 26 – 6:30pm
Abbie Windred ($6.00), Indira Virzi-Hartigan ($6.00), Jasmin L’Green ($6.00), Claire Maslen ($6.00), Emme Moulds ($6.00), Jacob Bird ($6.00), Isabelle MacIntosh ($6.00), Tiana Harford ($6.00), Amber Franks ($6.00), Bailee Dillon ($6.00).

WEDNESDAY MAY 27 – 10:00am
Emily Cameron ($3.00), Jenna Davis ($3.00), Tahlea Schumann ($3.00), Isobel MacDougall ($3.00), Mel Thompson ($3.00).

Please ensure that entry fees are paid at the office prior to the event. Transportation to and from the Manning Entertainment Centre will need to be arranged by parents/carers. Please remember that each group will need to submit a script on the day of the performance. Students should meet in the main foyer and check in at the Convener’s office, which is at the back of the audience seating in the main auditorium.
**ANZAC DAY MARCH**

Gloucester High School students did our school and community proud. Students and staff members, marched in the ANZAC Day parade on Saturday.

We thank all the students and staff members who willingly gave up their Saturday for this event. We also acknowledge and thank the students who helped plant 34 crosses in the rose garden of the park to commemorate soldiers from the Gloucester district killed in action during the First World War.

Wow what an incredible day it was. 100 years since the Anzacs landed at Gallipoli. Congratulations to my amazing students, Liam Chester, Oihanu Barff, Jordan and Sophie Dunn, Emme Moulds, Grace Forrester, Nina Samson and Isabelle Mackintosh what a fantastic group of young people. Your singing was awesome! I am so very proud of you all. Thank you for the effort you put in, you truly helped to make this a memorable day for many people.

Mrs Judy Ingram
Sixty-seven enthusiastic Science students braved the early start to an all day Sydney excursion that departed school at 6am. The excursion was planned to supplement the topic studied in class *Forces and Motion*. Students had a written assessment report to complete with their experience of Luna Park. All students actively participated in the day’s activities. Year 8, I congratulate you on your behaviour and participation on the day. They were exemplary!

Mr Ron McCarthy

On Monday 27 April at 6am, Year 8 left for the long trip to Sydney for a Luna Park Science Excursion. We stopped at the Twin Servos for Breakfast. When we arrived at Luna Park there were no rides open, so everyone sat down and as soon as you got your work booklet you could go. So we went for a walk around and watched the Tango Train test run. It got an “all clear” and was the first ride to open and a small group of us were the first to go on a ride. Overall my three favourite rides were Dodgems, Hair Raiser and the Roto. Dodgems is just like a Crash Up Derby. Hair Raiser takes you up really high then you fall at 80km/h and the Rotor spins you so fast you get stuck to the wall and the floor drops down and your are left stuck to the wall. Overall it was a great day!

Chloe Garnham

We left a 6am in the morning to go to Sydney. On the way we stopped at the Twin Servos for breakfast. We only had 20 minutes. When we arrived we got into groups, we had to wait half an hour before we could go on the rides. Firstly we went on the Ferris Wheel, which went very high in the air and kept stopping. Then we went on the Coney Island and then down the vertical slide. The force of Tango Train going in circles made you slip to the out side of the seat. Later on that day we also went on the Wild Mouse. It was a roller coaster and was very scary, old and shakey. We went on the Dodgem Cars at least fifteen times and when you bumped into someone the force of the other car made you go forward. We loved every moment and hope to go again some day.

Laura -Jean Rowney and Brianna Martin

On the 27 April Year 8 went on an excursion to Luna Park in Sydney. We arrived at Luna Park at 10:30am and left around 4pm. There were many rides at Luna Park including - Spider, Ranger, Coney Island, Slides, City, Wild Mouse, Tango Train, Flying Saucer, Hair Raiser, Ferris Wheel, Carousel and the Roto. It was a great day for all of Year 8 and we wish we could have stayed longer.

Amelia Carson

I had lots of fun at Luna Park. I learnt about how rides have gravitational potential energy at different points of some rides.

Jasmine Keen

Year 8 would like to thank Mr McCarthy, Ms Pickett, Mrs Davis and Mr Green for organaising and taking us to Luna Park it. We had an awesome time!
NEW TITLE IN SERIES
DIARY OF A WIMPY KID by Jeff Kinney
Dog Days (#4): Greg, a self-confessed “indoor person”, is living out his ultimate summer fantasy: no responsibilities and no rules. But Greg’s mother has a different vision for an ideal summer . . . one packed with outdoor activities and “family togetherness”. Whose vision will win out? Or will a new addition to the Heffley family change everything?

Through My Eyes
Emilio (#4) by Sophie Masson
For high-school student Emilio Garcia Lopez, it's an ordinary school day. But that evening the knock on the door announcing the arrival of his police-officer cousin Juanita, flanked by a tall man in the uniform of the Federal Police, will turn his ordinary day into the beginning of a long nightmare. Emilio's mother has been kidnapped in broad daylight from a hotel car park by unidentified criminals who appear to know a great deal about her business and who have mistaken her for a wealthy businesswoman.

Malini (#5) by Robert Hillman
Malini lives with her parents and young sister, Banni, in northern Sri Lanka. As the civil war heads towards its catastrophic end, Malini and her family are herded by Tamil Tiger troops towards the coast where they will act as human shields, along with thousands of other Tamil civilians. When Malini's father pushes a mobile phone into her hands and tells her to run off into the forest with Banni, Malini does as she is told. But then the shelling begins, and Malini has no way of finding her mother and father.

Zafir (#6) by Prue Mason
Zafir has a comfortable life in Homs, Syria, until his father, a doctor, is arrested for helping a protester who was campaigning for revolution. While his mother heads to Damascus to try to find out where his father is being held, Zafir stays with his grandmother - until her house is bombed. With his father in prison, his mother absent, his grandmother ill and not a friend left in the city, Zafir must stay with his Uncle Ghazi. But that too becomes dangerous as the city becomes more and more besieged. Will Zafir survive long enough to be reunited with his parents?

THE WOLVES OF MERCY FALLS by Maggie Stiefvater
Sinner (#4): Cole St. Clair has come to California for one reason: to get back Isabel Culpeper. She fled from his damaged, drained life, and damaged and drained it even more. He doesn’t just want her. He needs her. Isabel is trying to build herself a life in Los Angeles. It’s not really working. She can play the game as well as all the other fakes. But what’s the point?
FICTION
The Protected by Claire Zorn
Hannah's world is in pieces and she doesn't need the school counsellor to tell her she has deep-seated psychological issues. Hannah should feel terrible but for the first time in ages, she feels a glimmer of hope and isn't afraid anymore. Is it because the elusive Josh is taking an interest in her? Or does it run deeper than that?

The Sky So Heavy by Claire Zorn
For Fin, it's just like any other day – racing for the school bus, bluffing his way through class and trying to remain cool in front of the most sophisticated girl in his universe, Lucy. Only it's not like any other day because, on the other side of the world, nuclear missiles are being detonated with unimaginable consequences. When Fin wakes up the next morning it's dark, bitterly cold and snow is falling. There's no Internet, no phone, no TV, no power and no parents.

The Girl with all the Gifts by M.R. Carey
Not every gift is a blessing! Every morning Melanie waits in her cell to be collected for class. When they come for her, Sergeant Parks keeps his gun pointing at her while two of his people strap her into the wheelchair. She thinks they don't like her. She jokes that she won't bite. But they don't laugh. Melanie is a very special girl.

Quick by Steve Worland
Melbourne, Australia: Round one of the Formula One World Championship. Billy Hotchkiss no longer races a V8 Supercar, but that doesn't mean he's lost the need for speed. When the young cop uncovers a diamond heist in progress he leaps into action and almost captures the thieves single-handedly.

The Messenger Bird by Rosanne Hawke
Never before has Tamar felt so alone. Her older brother is dead, her mum's gone away and her dad's so wrapped up in restoring their ancient farmhouse he avoids talking about the things that really matter. With no interest in school or friends, and plagued by nightmares about her brother, Tamar wanders around her life in a daze. Even friendly new neighbour Gavin can't get through to her, despite his eager attempts.

Golden Boys by Sonya Hartnett
Colt Jenson and his younger brother Bastian live in a world of shiny, new things – skateboards, slot cars, train sets and even the latest BMX. Their wealthy father, Rex, has made sure that they'll be the envy of the new, working-class suburb they've moved to. But underneath the surface of the perfect family, is there something unsettling about the Jensons? To the local kids, Rex becomes a kind of hero, but Colt senses there's something in his father that could destroy their fragile new lives.

SHORT STORIES
Hatched (with a foreword by Tim Winton)
Whether pieces of feverish fantasy or works of gritty realism, this diverse collection features works from talented Australians young writers. "Orwell's Children" describes everyday objects and activities in futuristic ways; "The Untouchable" reflects on the importance of language and explores the idea of identity; and in "The Piano Man," a piano player's neighbours step in when a debt collector threatens to take his piano from him.
Minutes of the General Meeting held on Thursday 23 April, 2015 at 7.00pm in the Computer Room

Welcome
Present: Mike King, Eve Green, Susie McLeod, Narelle Bignell, Robyn Hooke, Suzie Dark, Sharon Benson
Apologies: Judy Ingram, Nikki Durbidge, Janet Garner, Bernie Edstein, Pat Cavanagh

Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meeting:
Read and accepted. Moved Susie McLeod, seconded Eve Green.

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:
• Canteen Treasurer position: Eve has approached Jodie Waddell but she is unable to take this on due to other commitments. Suzie Dark suggested Linda Moy - Suzie to contact her.
• Chloe Walker: P&C needs to contact her regarding her intentions to return to work. A letter is to be written and sent - Robyn to do this.
• Gloucester Farmer’s Market BBQ: 11 June 2016 has been booked.

President’s Report:
Read and tabled. Moved Robyn Hooke, seconded Eve Green.

Principal’s Report: (attached)
Read and tabled. Moved Eve Green, seconded Susie McLeod.

Correspondence In:
• Regional Publishers Invoice - Ad for P&C AGM
• Royal Far West School P&C - receipt for $100 donation
• LW Reid - school uniforms pamphlet
• ACNC newsletter
• Scully Outdoor Designs - outdoor furniture and shelter catalogue

Correspondence Out:
Westpac Bank - letter to advise of P&C Assoc. signatories.
Read and accepted. Moved Eve Green, seconded Mike King.

Treasurer’s Report: (attached)
Balance as at 23/04/2015   $31,820.34
Tabled and accepted. Moved Robyn Hooke, seconded Susie McLeod.

Canteen Treasurer’s Report:
Balance as at 23/04/2105   $6,688.89
Tabled and accepted. Moved Narelle Bignell, seconded Suzie Dark.

Chaplaincy’s Report:
Balance as at 23/04/2015   $14,446.63 (+ $18,950 in School trust account)
Tabled and Accepted. Moved Narelle Bignell, seconded Suzie Dark.

Ag Sub-Committee Report: (attached)
Balance as at 23/04/2015   $3,496.86
Tabled and accepted. Moved Robyn Hooke, seconded Sharon Benson.
General Business:
- Ag Sub Committee: signatories for the account held at the Commonwealth Bank need to be sorted out. Three signatories required from P&C - Narelle Bignell, Robyn Hooke and Suzie Dark to do this.
- Uniforms - Lowes: delivery of samples has been delayed due to flooding. We will have them for the next meeting in May. Robyn will also place another hoodie order from LW Reid so as ensure a small supply of stock is held.
- Westpac Bank: Suzie Dark advised that Westpac Sub-Branches will be closing and this may affect her being able to obtain statements from the Gloucester branch - would moving the account to the NAB overcome this problem? Another option would be to link the P&C account to Narelle’s Westpac account. P&C members decided to wait and see the outcome of any branch closures before acting on this.
- Bus Rego: the school bus needs to be registered - who is responsible for this? (the registration is currently in the P&C’s name). Mike King to organise this.
- Parent school volunteer: a parent who approached the school offering to volunteer in assisting student learning has been turned away. Mike to speak to the parent concerned.
- Air Conditioning in the school hall: hall users are subject to discomfort, especially during the warmer months, due to the absence of air conditioning. However, the hall is an old building and would require upgrading for three phase power required to run air conditioning. There is a possibility that P&C could fund this over 2-3 years. Any commitment from the school is to be discussed.

Moved Robyn Hooke, seconded Narelle Bignell.

Date of Next Meeting: Thursday 28 May at 7.00pm

Meeting Closed: 8.15pm

CAREERS NEWS

UMAT 2015
The test is used specifically to assist with the selection of students into the medicine, dentistry and health science degree programs at undergraduate level at a number of universities in Australia and New Zealand.
For full details you must see UMAT 2015 Information Booklet which is downloadable from the website. Registrations are now open for this years UMAT exam and close at 5pm on Friday June 5, 2015. Exam is on Wednesday 29 July.
For more information, and/or to apply visit http://umat.acer.edu.au/

RESILIENCE FOR LEARNING

Students have begun the Resilience for Learning Program for Term 2, with a bang and with a couple of new faces starting this term. The Hub program assists students in starting or finishing assignments, explanations of difficult topics in various subjects or catch up lessons in literacy and numeracy skills. We have a variety of resources available to the students to help them with their learning in a class which has a lower student to teacher ratio than other classes. The Hub programs run all day from Monday to Wednesday by the GHS Staff and community volunteers.

Mr Kent Baker
LETTER TO PARENTS

In May 2015 the National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) will be completed by students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. NAPLAN has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers and will assess the literacy and numeracy skills of students across Australian schools.

The results of the tests will provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and will be used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents will receive a report indicating their child’s level of achievement. Each student's level of achievement will be reported against the national minimum standard.

Student background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) will be collected as part of the National Assessment Program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The NAPLAN tests will be conducted from 12-14 May 2015.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>TUESDAY 12 MAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY 13 MAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY 14 MAY</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Language Conventions (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar)</td>
<td>Reading</td>
<td>Numeracy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Writing</td>
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In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not to be used. For the calculator test, the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

Friday 15 May – A ‘catch-up’ day is scheduled for students who missed a test or were absent on a test day.

Students may be considered for exemption from the tests if they:

- are newly arrived in Australia (less than one year before the test) and with a language background other than English, or
- have significant intellectual disability and/or significant co-existing conditions which severely limit their capacity to participate in the tests.

All other students are expected to participate in the tests. Disability adjustments which reflect the student's normal level of support in the classroom may be provided. Large print, Braille, coloured paper versions and electronic tests are available to meet the needs of individual students.

Access to disability adjustments or exemption from the tests must be discussed with the school principal and a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Students may be withdrawn from NAPLAN by their parent or carer. This is a matter for consideration by parents in consultation with the Principal. If you wish to withdraw your child from the tests, a parent or carer consent form must be signed.

Please make an appointment with the principal of the school your child attends if you would like to discuss your child’s participation in NAPLAN.

Additional information about NAPLAN can be found at www.nap.edu.au/NAPLAN/Parent_Carer_support/index.html.
WIN A FAMILY HOLIDAY

Gloucester High School has been a supporter of Stewart House for many years. Stewart House provides short term respite care for children. We are again doing the donation drive. Envelopes were handed out to students last week at Roll Call. Please help us support this charity. All entries go in the draw to win a $4000 family holiday.

Please return your gold coin donation in the envelope provided to the office by Friday 15 May 2015.

‘YOU CAN ACHIEVE IN ANY AREA THAT YOU LIKE, BUT YOU MUST PROVIDE THE EFFORT AND DETERMINATION’
The HSC Stress Less App seeks to assist HSC students to manage their stress and difficult emotions throughout this high pressure year via the use of Mindfulness Meditation. Mindfulness is the art of "intentional attention". That is, simply being able to step back and observe, in a non-judgemental manner, our inner sensations and experiences. Mindfulness is used widely in the treatment of clinical issues such as depression, anxiety, and substance abuse. It is not religiously based and requires no previous training.

What’s in it for us?
We are interested in whether using the app helps students to stress less and have better mental health in their HSC year.

What’s in it for you?
Whilst it's possible you may find the use of this app helpful, we are not sure how helpful it will be. You can help us find out! The information you provide will develop this project further and hopefully help us build an app that future HSC students will find easy to use and really helps!

How does it work?
The app provides audio guided meditations of varying lengths (from 1 minute to 10 minutes) which will allow you to build up your "Mindfulness Muscle" so that you are better able to "unstick" from stressful feelings. It also takes advantage of the functions of your phone or tablet to set reminders to practice your Mindfulness skills regularly.

The HSC Stress Less app is available to download for FREE from iTunes and Google Play Stores from April 12th 2015.

Feeling really bad and need someone to talk to? Call Kids Helpline: 1800 55 1800 OR Lifeline: 13 11 14
Diverse educational programs that challenge and inspire students
GHS MUSIC AND DRAMA DEPARTMENTS PRESENT

Music And Drama NIGHT

Thursday 7 May 2015
7:00pm start
in the Hall
Tickets: $3.00

Music! Dance! Drama!
See Mr Davis or Mrs Ingram if you would like to perform.

Be There!!!!!!!!!!!!

SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT
Gloucester High School aims to develop a supportive learning environment that engages all students, Teachers and community in the pursuit of excellence.