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Quote of the week

November 2019
Term 4 Week 4

*The beautiful thing about LEARNING is that
no one can take it away from you. BB King*

Principal's report...

One of the important messages we provide each day to our students is about care. I regularly stress to the staff the importance of school as a place where students receive messages each day – about success, about resilience, about persistence, about how to fail well, about their future, about hope...the list is endless. Importantly, 'the easy option' is not, in my view, an equation which fits neatly with care. Often, encouraging students to take a positive risk or to move beyond their comfort zone reflects the care we have to help them grow. As teachers, we show care to each other through our preparation, through our high expectations and through regular check-ins with students. Our Learning and Support Team are working hard in this space to support students as we conclude the year and I would like to acknowledge more broadly the school staff who regularly support our students to go that extra distance.

Students in our junior years are about to commence their yearly examinations and I encourage students to do their very best. The exams are an opportunity for students to finish their year on a positive note with their learning. It is one way we scaffold the expectations of senior students in the junior years of schooling, it also acts as a visible reminder about the importance and value of learning, growth and feedback.

Team work is a very big part of our school culture – from the different teams we have within our school such as the Show Team to sporting teams and our student representative committees as well as the teams of teachers who work together to provide a range of additional opportunities such as the Creative and Performing Arts Team, the Gifted and Talented Team, the Sport Enrichment Team and the Aboriginal Education Team. Much of the success of our school can be attributed to working together, and as we conclude the school year, the stories we share will be about how we have done that this year and how we will expand it in to 2020. Caring about these opportunities and nurturing students in these spaces is something I am confident will help our school culture (and population) grow.

Neal Reed
Principal



Clayton Fanning, Allan Allport, John Raglus, Sam Duff, John Bunter, Bailey Mcburnie, Mitchell Carlow
Ashleigh Carlow, Mary Westwood, Amelia Murray, Breanna Dann and Ellanorah Matthews

Mathematics Faculty

Mathematics classes have been moving forward with their learning in several areas. With the Year 11 students commencing the Year 12 coursework, classes have been learning about Networks, the different types, maximising them and also looking at choke points causing them to have limitations. The advanced students have been looking at Trigonometry in detail whilst Mitchell Gaff has commenced the highest level, Extension 2 beginning his journey with imaginary numbers. The square root of -1 is undefined in the real number system however it is used in a variety of fields such as electricity. Mathematicians need to be able to work with it so the imaginary

number i was invented as the answer to $\sqrt{-1}$! When we combine the square root of negative numbers with our real numbers they create Complex Numbers!

The middle school have been working around Trigonometry, trying to make sense of SOHCAHTOA and calculating the lengths of the sides of triangles or their angles. Once students have the basics of sides and angles they can then begin applying these skills to real world problems involving navigation, angles of elevation or depression and other engineering/construction type questions.

Years 7 and 8 have been looking at different measurement and probability skills. It is surprising how many students are not able to accurately measure with a tape measure. They've had plenty of practice and now know to use the metric scale rather than the imperial ones! There have been perimeter and area skills developed with teachers always informing the students so they will know "Where will I ever use this"! It makes a big difference to student learning if a student understands how important the skills taught at school will be later in life, we just don't know which skills and when in their lives.

All students 7 to 10 will have yearly exams over the next 4 weeks, they need to go over all their work to prepare. Year 11 students will have the first HSC assessment tasks, these need to be completed to the highest standard possible by each student. The best way to maintain maths skills is to regularly use them, do a few questions every second day and it will keep your skills up.

Please encourage your child to wear full school uniform as this:

- * Develops students' sense of belonging to the school community.
- * Enhances the health and safety of students when involved in school activities.
- * Provides an opportunity to build school spirit.

U-Rippa Water Safety Program



Gilgandra High School students and staff were lucky enough to be involved in the U-Rippa water safety program, which was held at the Gilgandra Pool last week. It was a great chance to engage in a simulation rip current, snorkelling and scuba diving. Students were given many excellent skills and advice from the instructor Scott Bland.

We would like to thank Mel Ferguson for her work in bringing this program to Gilgandra, so many students have gained excellent knowledge from it.

Gilgandra High School Show Team



Mitchell Carlow

The show team had a great time participating in the last day of the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza. Students competed in junior judging and paraders with Mitchell Carlow receiving a third place in his age division. The cattle were then taken away for slaughter and judged according to the quality of their carcasses. Again the show team would like to extend a huge thank you to Bruce Bunter for being a great parent support and bus driver.

Term 4	November
Monday 11th November	HSC Finish
Tuesday 12th November	P & C Meeting in the library 7pm
Wednesday 20th November	Volunteers Luncheon
Thursday 21st November	Sports Award Night
Monday 25th November	Year 10 Work Experience starts
Monday 25th November	Year 6 to 7 Parent Information night