



Court Street
GILGANDRA NSW 2827

Phone: 6847 2276

Fax: 6847 1288

Principal

Mrs Erica Burge (RLG)

Deputy

Ms Sheryn West (RLG)

Head Teachers:

English/HSIE

Mrs Fiona Lambell

Mathematics

Mrs Michelle Keogh (RLG)

Science

Miss Ilana Austen (RLG)

TAS

Mr Russell Woollams

Support

Mrs Di Irvin

Year Advisors:

Year 7

Miss Nicola Murphy

Year 8

Mr Andrew McCutcheon

Year 9

Mrs Laura Jordan and
Mrs Di Irvin

Year 10

Miss Kristy Smith

Year 11

Mrs Jessica Reed

Year 12

Mrs Stacey O'Neill

P & C President

Mr Chris Riley

AECG President

Ms Deidrie Naden

ARCO

Mrs Meredith Schier

Email: gilgandra-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

www.gilgandra-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

NEWSLETTER 3RD NOVEMBER 2020

GILGANDRA HIGH SCHOOL

Principals Report

Safety of Students – School Gates

At 3:25pm each day, the school gates are closed so that students are able to exit school and alight buses in a safe manner. During this time, cars are not able to enter or exit the school. Please understand that this is a Workplace Health and Safety provision to ensure the safety of our school community. When the school buses have left, the gates are re-opened by the staff on duty in the bus area. Thank you for your co-operation.

NSW DoE and AECG Partnership Agreement 2010-2030

On the 23 October 2020, the NSW Department of Education and the AECG signed the 2020-2030 Partnership Agreement. I have attached a copy of the agreement to share the main points. Please follow the link below to see the launch video and signed agreement.

[Working in partnership with the NSW AECG Inc.](#)

Stage 6 Curriculum Support

EDROLO

On Monday 26/10/20, teaching staff at GHS engaged in an extended staff meeting where they undertook training for a Term 4 trial of the Year 12 education resource EDROLO. EDROLO is available for a large number of the HSC subjects delivered at Gilgandra High School. It is expected that all Year 12 students will be signed up to EDROLO by the end of Week 4 and then take the opportunity to access the resources available. The success of the trial will be measured by the 'hits' that we see for subject material and feedback from staff, students and parents towards the end of Term 4. Based on this feedback, a decision will be made to continue providing this resource to students or to consider other methods of support for Stage 6. I encourage parents to click on the link to be better informed about this program. <https://edrolo.com.au/>
<https://edrolo.com.au/parents/>

ATOMI

It is also timely to remind students and families that Gilgandra High School also has a subscription to ATOMI, a curriculum resource accessible to both staff and students to support curriculum delivery to our students. <https://getatomi.com/au> Students in Stage 6 are encouraged to speak to their teachers about the benefits of accessing ATOMI resources.

Current COVID Guidelines

There are no major changes to the COVID advice for schools. The following information remains in place:

Advice for Families

- In accordance with advice from NSW Health, parents and carers are reminded NOT to send children to school if they are unwell, even if they have the mildest flu-like symptoms.
- Students who do not undertake a COVID-19 test result will not be permitted to return to school for a 10 day period. Additionally, they must be symptom free for at least 3 days prior to returning to school.
- **COVID-19 test results for HSC students** will be prioritised by NSW Health to minimise any impact on HSC preparations. When HSC students are getting tested, they need to advise the GP or testing clinic that they are currently doing their HSC so their test results can be prioritised.

Erica Burge
Principal (RLG)



Deputy Principal Report

During the past month, Gilgandra High School students have enjoyed participating in the annual Vietnam Vets visit, Under 15s Boys basketball, Open Girls soccer and the Supporting And Linking Tradeswomen (SALT) workshop, where females from Years 9 and 10 were given the opportunity to work with women in industry to develop basic life skills with tools which are useful to all women in their everyday lives. Thankyou to Ms Madeline Foran for organising such a successful and enjoyable event.

I would like to address the School Community Charter (attached to the newsletter) in regards to acceptable communication and behaviour at Gilgandra High School.

Our school is committed to building a safe and happy environment for students, staff, parents and the broader community.

We encourage parents and carers to advocate strongly on their child's behalf and, as part of this, expect them to raise concerns about their child.

Sometimes these concerns may relate to the way a child may have been treated by another student at this school.

It is natural for parents and carers to feel protective of their children.

However, it is not appropriate to raise any concerns you have about the behaviour of another child directly with that child (or his or her parents while they are at school) but instead please report your concerns to the Principal or the Deputy Principal. Communication can be via the school phone 6847 2276. Your concerns will be taken seriously and responded to promptly.

If a parent, carer or other community member raises their concerns directly with a child (or their parents while they are at school) this may result in the access that person has to the school site being restricted or withdrawn.

We greatly value the contribution parents, carers and other community members make to the school community and do not wish to take any action that impacts on their participation in school activities.

Please let us know if you have concerns about the behaviour of another person's child while they are at school or on school related activities.

Raising your concerns directly with the child (or his or her parents while they are at school) could result in your access to the school site being restricted or withdrawn.

Sheryn West
Deputy Principal (RLG)

Attendance Matters

What does it look like if you take a day or two off school. Check out the poster in this newsletter edition to see how quickly the days add up!

Days to acknowledge/celebrate at Gilgandra High School in 2021

We are seeking feedback from the community about days in the 2021 calendar, that you would like considered to be acknowledged or celebrated by Gilgandra High School.

Please use the link below to direct you to the Google Forms survey:

<https://forms.gle/BMF3g8zWND5KHKBG8>

P & C Meeting

The next P & C meeting will be held on Tuesday 10th November at 7pm with a venue to be confirmed. Please contact the school or check out our facebook page for further information.

Sporting events and around the classrooms

Academic Extension

Although 2020 has tried its best to stop all extra-curricula activities, the students of Gilgandra High School have recently been able to engage with some enrichment opportunities. During Week 2, 15 mathematicians and 14 English wordsmiths attempted the UNSW IACS Academic Assessments. Well done to all who participated and a special congratulations to the following award recipients:

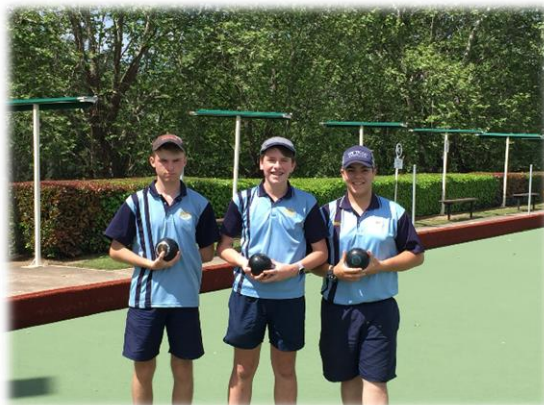
Mathematics: Credit – Alana Elsom, Jack Chandler and Sarah Schier **Merit** – Corey Kaltenbacher

English: Merit – Layney Godber and Abby Tate



The Year 9 and 10 Food Technology class made and decorated cakes from scratch. Students developed their designs and applied techniques learnt in class to make outstanding creations. Well done to each student for such a great job.

The GHS Lawn Bowl team consisting of Luke Nalder, Harrison King and Kooper Fox, recently competed at a gala day in Orange. The team finished the day with 3 wins and 3 losses.



GHS U15s boys basketball team travelled to the Western Gala day in Orange recently. The boys competed and won against Mudgee, Blayney, Cowra and Boorowa. Congratulations to the team on a fantastic result for the day.

The hail the school received on Wednesday afternoon on 28th October.



Maths Campaign and the Everyday Maths Hub

This week, Minister Mitchell launched the [Everyday Maths Hub](#) - an exciting new online resource for parents and carers.

The #MathsTrainsBrains campaign was also launched, to help change perceptions of mathematics in parents, carers and the wider community.

We are helping parents and carers engage their children in mathematics through fun, relatable activities.

Everyday Maths Hub:

- is an engaging and dynamic online platform for parents and carers of children in Kindy through to Year 10
- aims to support and encourage family conversations about the relevance and usefulness of mathematics in everyday life
- is part of the [NSW Mathematics Strategy](#) to achieve the Premier's vision, 'for all NSW students to develop the mathematical skills they need to succeed in life'
- was designed in consultation with our teachers, parents and carers
- can support parents and carers in empowering their children to think critically and creatively, find and solve problems, and notice and wonder about the mathematics in the world around them
- helps parents and carers connect with their children through mathematics.

Features

- mathematical bite-size content
- short creative videos to introduce topics
- interactive everyday activities
- inspiring reading and resource lists
- games and puzzles

School Community Charter

 **Collaborative. Respectful. Communication.**

The following School Community Charter outlines the responsibilities of parents, carers, educators and school staff in NSW public schools to ensure our learning environments are collaborative, supportive and cohesive.

What our schools provide

NSW public schools work to create positive environments for students, staff and the entire school community that support student learning. We strive to ensure that every student is known, valued and cared for.

The best education happens when parents and schools work together.

The School Community Charter aligns with the NSW Department of Education Strategic Plan 2018 – 2022.



Positive environments

It is important that our NSW public schools are positive environments and that parents and carers are kept informed of students' progress and school announcements.

Parents and carers can expect:

- to be welcomed into our schools to work in partnership to promote student learning.
- communication from school staff will be timely, polite and informative.
- professional relationships with school staff are based on transparency, honesty and mutual respect.
- to be treated fairly. Tolerance and understanding are promoted as we respect diversity.

We treat
each other
with
respect

We
prioritise
the wellbeing
of all students
and staff

**Unsafe
behaviour**
is not acceptable
in our schools

We work
together
with the
school

**Ensuring respectful learning environments for all
members of NSW Public Schools communities.**



We create
collaborative
learning
environments

We
all play
a part

We work
in partnership
to promote
student
learning

Communicating with our schools

Our staff will find a time to talk to you when they can give you their full attention. Please remember that while our staff are in class or dealing with other matters, they may not be available to answer your questions immediately.

Our schools and communities will make sure that written communication is appropriate, fair and easy to read. We encourage you to use email and social media appropriately to connect with your school and stay up-to-date with up-coming events in the school community.

Our guide for parents, carers and students provides useful information about the complaints process: education.nsw.gov.au/about-us/rights-and-accountability/complaints-compliments-and-suggestions/guide-for-parents-carers-and-students

Respectful communication is a right

In all workplaces people have the right to feel respected. Unacceptable and offensive behaviour has no place in our school communities.

To ensure the wellbeing of students, staff and the community in our schools, steps will be taken to address unacceptable behaviour. This may include restricting contact with the school community or, in more serious cases, referral to NSW Police.



Unacceptable behaviour may include but is not limited to:

- Aggressive or intimidating actions, such as violence, threatening gestures or physical proximity.
- Aggressive or intimidating language, including the use of obscenities, making sexist, racist or derogatory comments or using a rude tone.
- Treating members of the school community differently due to aspects such as their religion or disability.
- Inappropriate and time wasting communication.



Collaborative.
Respectful.
Communication.

School Community Charter

education.nsw.gov.au

Why attendance matters

When your child misses school they miss important opportunities to:



Learn



Make friends



Build skills through fun

Days missed = years lost

A day here and there doesn't seem like much, but...

When your child misses just...

they miss weeks per year

and years over their school life

1 day per fortnight = **4** weeks = Over **1** year missed



1 day per week = **8** weeks = Over **2.5** years missed

