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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

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NEWSLETTER 17TH NOVEMBER 2020

GILGANDRA HIGH SCHOOL

Principals Report

With the HSC exams completed, the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony provided a wonderful opportunity for the students and their carers to come together and celebrate thirteen years of school achievements. The students arrived at the transformed school hall in their finery to celebrate, reminisce, and reflect on their years together at Gilgandra High School. Special awards were presented on the evening and the students all received a gift to take with them on their next journey. Mrs O'Neill, their Year Advisor, shared memories and spoke with passion of watching the students grow both physically and emotionally during their year at high school. An enjoyable slideshow helped to recall fun times during their time together.

Covid advice for Families: click below for the latest news

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/advice-for-families>

For your diaries: 2021 is just around the corner and the Department of Education has announced that there will be a change to the beginning of the school year, with two Staff Development Days to begin the year, transferring one of these days from December.

As such; Year 7, 11 and 12 will return to school on Friday 29th January 2021, with Years 8, 9 and 10 returning on Monday 1st February 2021.

Exams: As we move into the second half of the school term, Weeks 5 and 6 have seen Years 9 and 10 engage in yearly exams. Week 7 (23/11/20-27/11/20) will see Year 8 undertake their exams. A good night's sleep and a hearty breakfast will always make exams easier to manage, so prepare ahead and ensure that you are bringing the correct equipment.

Year 10 students are looking forward to Work Experience in Week 7 and 8, taking the opportunity to try a wide variety of experiences with many employers. Gilgandra High School thanks the employers who have generously volunteered to share their skills and experience with our students, some as far afield as Newcastle. I am certain that the students will benefit greatly from being able to consolidate or eliminate a number of ideas they have about what their future employment will be.

Year 12 mentors are an integral component of success during the HSC year. Most students have now selected a mentor to support and guide them through the HSC year. Please take time to have a conversation with your child about how they are touching base with their mentor and discuss ways that they can support them. If your child has not yet selected a mentor, please advise them to see Mrs Reed to arrange an appropriate adult at school to fulfil this important role.

Erica Burge
Principal (RLG)



**Mrs Burge with Georgia Horan, the recipient of the 2020 Caltex
Best All Rounder Award**

Deputy Principal's Report

Term 4 Week 6

As we move into the warmer weather I would like to remind students, staff and parents of the importance of looking after your skin and hydration during the coming summer months. Sun safety and planning for heat is everybody's responsibility.

Parents can help by:

- sending your children to school with a water bottle
- packing a hat in your child's school bag
- applying sunscreen before they head off to school.
- planning ahead for the heat

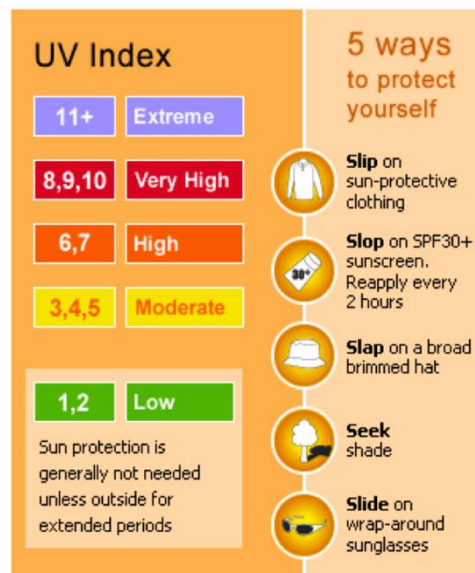
Students can help by:

- wearing sun safe hats, clothing and sunglasses
- seeking shade during peak ultra violet radiation (UVR) times during the school day
- wearing SPF 30+ (or higher) broad-spectrum and water- resistant sunscreen.
- staying hydrated by drinking water



Teachers can model sun safety, for example, wearing a broad brimmed hat for school activities held outside and planning outdoor activities to assist minimising exposure to ultraviolet radiation from the sun.

Health authorities recommend that sun safety measures are required when the ultraviolet index is 3 or above. The ultraviolet index, sometimes just referred to as the UV Index, is a measure of how strong the ultraviolet radiation from the sun is at a particular place on a particular day. The ultraviolet index can be checked at <http://www.bom.gov.au/nsw/uv/>.



Source: Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology website.
<http://www.bom.gov.au/uv/>, 16 April 2013

Sheryn West
Deputy Principal (RLG)

Remembrance Day

Our 2021 school captains, Rebecca Gaff and John Bunter, along with Kooper Fox, represented Gilgandra High School at the town ceremony at the cenotaph.

Abby Tate, Ella McAnally-Elwin and Sarah Schier, winners of the St Marys RSL Scholarships, spoke about Remembrance Day at our school assembly and the school observed one minutes silence.



Year 12 Graduation Ceremony

The HSC exams have concluded and the Gilgandra High School Year 12 cohort celebrated with a Graduation Ceremony held on Thursday 12/11/20 in the school hall. The students and their invited guests arrived to find the school hall transformed for an evening of celebration of their schooling achievements and awards presentation.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of special awards and the slide show that detailed many years of fun and achievement at Gilgandra High School.

Congratulations to our award winners on the evening were:

P&C Citizenship Prizes: Cassie Nolan and Mitchell Carlow

Reuben F Scarf Award: Brock Johnston

Douglas Irving Award: Spencer McIntosh

Stuart and Karen Border Award: Cassie Nolan

School Executive Award: John Raglus

Caltex Best All Rounder Award: Georgia Horan

From the Ag Plot

The Agriculture department have finished baling the oat crop thanks to Leo and Sam Harland. The paddocks made a total of 108 small bales which will come in very handy for the school livestock. We would like to say a big thank you to Leo and Sam for their time and effort in baling the hay.

Teresa Standing
Agriculture/Primary Industries Teacher



Keeping Our Kids Safe Online

Keeping kids safe online has never been so important. We have taken delivery of booklets for parents, grandparents and carers for distribution at the administration office at Gilgandra High School. Schools work closely with the eSafety Commissioner to guide our young people through the online world.

The eSafety Commissioner provides valuable information for all ages via the link below.

[eSafety Commissioner: Homepage](#)

Below are links to the booklets if you would prefer to read online:



[Online safety book](#)



[Online safety for grandparents and carers](#)


2021 NSW term and Vacation Dates*

- **Term 1** (Eastern division) – Wednesday 27 January to Thursday 1 April
- **Term 1** (Western division) – Wednesday 3 February to Thursday 1 April
- *Autumn vacation* – Monday 5 April to Friday 16 April
- **Term 2** – Monday 19 April to Friday 25 June
- *Winter vacation* – Monday 28 June to Friday 9 July
- **Term 3** – Monday 12 July to Friday 17 September
- *Spring vacation* – Monday 20 September to Friday 1 October
- **Term 4** – Tuesday 5 October to Friday 17 December
- *Summer vacation* (Eastern division) – Monday 20 December to Thursday 27 January 2022
- *Summer vacation* (Western division) – Monday 20 December to Thursday 3 February 2022

School development days*

2021 school development days

- Eastern division – 27 January, 28 January 2021
- Western division – 3 February, 4 February 2021
- All schools – 19 April, 12 July, 17 December 2021


**SENTRAL**
Parent Portal


The Sentral for Parents app helps you stay connected and informed about your child's education.

Did you know?

The Parent Portal can be used to receive Push Notifications from the school and to allow you to message individual teachers.

Download the app today and contact the school for login details

 GET IT ON
Google Play

 Download on the
App Store

Share the road this harvest season





BE TRUCK AWARE