



Court Street
GILGANDRA NSW 2827

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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 9TH DECEMBER 2020

GILGANDRA HIGH SCHOOL

Principal's Report

I am sure that we all thought that reaching the end of 2020 would never eventuate, however, we find ourselves at the end of term, having endured a roller coaster of a year in so many ways.

I congratulate all the students who will receive awards and recognition at this week's Presentation Day assembly and the students who have tried their best in everything that they have worked on this year. All your small achievements certainly add up, and you are to be proud of your efforts.

This week students will receive their reports. I encourage all our students to read carefully, not just grades, but the important values that we work hard as parents and teachers to instil in our young adults to make them good, contributing members of our community. Read the comments carefully, as your teachers have taken time to write them to celebrate your efforts and guide you forward in your learning.

For students transitioning from Year 10 to Year 11, use your time in the summer break to prepare yourself for the change to senior school. You will need to apply discipline to your learning, which will involve devoting time at home to reviewing your work and consolidating skills. Consider Year 11 a practice for Year 12. Opportunity to hone your skills, embed sound study habits and ensure that you work closely with your teachers to get quality feedback on your work, so that you may improve every day. Revisit goals you may have set for yourself, as these will keep you motivated to do your best.

In the new year, we will welcome a new cohort of Year 7 students. You may have siblings amongst this group. As a school it is our responsibility, staff and students, to make our newcomers feel welcome, as they transition to high school. Gilgandra High School is made up of a collection of individuals who are thrust together with the goal to progress academically and socially from Years 7 to 12. First impressions are powerful and a gentle approach and a kind comment can make the difference between an average and a great day at school.

If at any time you wish to speak with me, please simply make an appointment through the administration office, or phone the school. I am always happy to talk with parents with regard to feedback or concerns.

I thank the school community for your support in the past six months. I will be returning to Gilgandra High School to start the new year and look forward to continuing to work with the school community.

Have a happy Christmas season, enjoy the time that you have with your children during the holidays, and above all take care if you are traveling to keep you and your family safe.

Erica Burge
Principal (RLG)



Important Notice:

On Monday 14th December 2020, the canteen will be closed at Recess 2.

We will be selling soft drinks for \$1.50 from the Hospitality Café room.

Limited amount of soft drinks available.

Deputy Principal's Report

As we enter the last days of school for 2020, I would like to thank the students, staff and parents of Gilgandra High School for their understanding, support and perseverance throughout this year. As a school we have successfully demonstrated innovative and connected learning in a Safe, Respectful, Achiever school setting.

This year has highlighted the amazing opportunities that we regularly make available to our students and the devotion of our staff in educating the young people of our school in not only curriculum based knowledge but also extracurricular activities, social skills, wellbeing strategies and helping each and every student to meet the challenges of work, life and education now and into the future.

Recently, the students of Gilgandra High School have had the opportunity to involve themselves in a range of sporting activities such as golf, hockey, basketball, soccer, cricket, touch football and rugby league. In each of these situations the students represented our school with honor and a 'never give up attitude'.

Our Year 10 students have recently returned from 2 weeks of work experience. Students chose to experience a variety of careers including: working at the Post Office, as a Butcher, Accountant, Hairdresser, Pharmacist and Helicopter mechanic, just to name a few. I know that the experiences and skills that they have learnt over the past two weeks will be invaluable in their future careers.

Year 7 Wiradjuri classes have travelled to Coonabarabran sandstone caves, Dandry Gorge and the Baradine Discovery Centre to further connect with culture. Year 7 also have participated in a History workshops run by Historicconnection and Tutroadshow. Students were able enter a replica of Tutankhamun's tomb and created writing seals of their own name based on the style of the ancients.

I would like to congratulate any student who has represented the school during the year for representing the school with pride.

Please feel free to contact me if you have an queries or questions.

Have a safe and happy holiday

Sheryn West
Deputy Principal (RLG)

Presentation Day 2020

Our annual Presentation Day will be held on Friday 11th December 2020 in the main school quadrangle. The assembly will commence promptly at 9:30am and is expected to conclude at 10:30am.

We request that parents and carers sign in from 9:00am and be well and free of any flu-like symptoms. If you are unwell, we ask that you do not attend this event.

In the event of rain, the assembly will be moved to the hall and parents and carers will not be able to attend, due to COVID restrictions on numbers of external visitors.

At conclusion of the assembly, students will resume classes for the remainder of the day.

School Canteen

As the end of the school year is fast approaching, Kristy from the canteen would like to advise the following:

- To finalise any money owing before the end of the Term
- There will be no more booking up on credit. If you already have a prearrangement in place with Kristy this will be ok
- If you have forgot your lunch please see your Year Advisor to make lunch arrangements
- Please be aware that some food items will start to sell out towards the end of the term. Please watch the menu boards for items available
- On Monday 14th December the school canteen will be closed at Recess 2 (2pm). If you need to purchase food for this afternoon break, you will need to purchase items earlier in the day

Thank you for your support this year.

Kristy Gale
Canteen Operator

COVID-safe summer packs for students

As we come closer to the end of the school year, we'd like to extend our thanks to you, our parent community, for demonstrating so much resilience and patience towards the circumstances we faced together. We strived together to get the best outcomes for our students despite the pandemic and you have stayed by our side the entire time. Thank you again.

We will be sending a COVID-safe summer pack to each student before the year ends. The contents of the pack will help students maintain healthy hygiene practices and to stay COVID-safe during the school holidays.

Here are some quick tips to help you and your families stay COVID-safe during the school holidays:

- Encourage your children to use their packs whenever they leave the house
- Meet outdoors whenever possible and wear sunscreen
- Meet in small groups
- Encourage good hand hygiene practices and remind your children to cough and sneeze into their elbow
- Keep up-to-date with the latest health information by monitoring the [NSW Government website](https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/COVID-19/Pages/default.aspx)^{External link}

Covid Update

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

The Wellbeing Hub Opening

On Friday 4th December, the Gilgandra High School Wellbeing Hub was officially opened. Our school captains, Rebecca Gaff and John Bunter welcomed our P & C President, Chris Riley and Gilgandra Shire Council General Manager, David Neeves, selected staff members and our SRC and AECG representatives and proceeded to cut the ribbon. After the formalities, they enjoyed a tour of the Hub and refreshments, which were prepared by the Year 11 Hospitality class.

The Hub is a place for external providers to visit and provide service to our students and families. It is also a place for the Gilgandra Multipurpose Health Service to carry out immunisations. It will also be used for students in Year 10 to be trained in the program 'You Can Do It', which will assist the Year 7 students commencing high school next year.





2021 Information

2021 NSW term and Vacation Dates*

- **Term 1** (Eastern division) – Wednesday 27 January to Thursday 1 April
**Years 7, 11 & 12 resume on Friday 29th Jan 2021 and
Years 8, 9 & 10 resume on Monday 1st Feb 2021**
- **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

Year 7 Book Packs

The team at Gil News and Gifts will have available after Christmas, the Year 7. If you wish to purchase a pack, please call in and see the team who will be able to assist you.

Should you require a calculator, these can be purchased for \$26.00 from the front office between 8:30am – 2:30pm.

Contact Details

It is important that the school has current contact details for parents so we can contact you should your child resent ill or in case of an emergency etc. If you move over the Christmas break, could you please provide your new details to the school upon return.

We ask that you please provide a current address, mobile phone number and or landline number and email address.

This information can be sent to our school email: gilgandra-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au or alternatively you can contact the office on 6847 2276 during 8:00am and 3:30pm

Uniforms

Uniforms can be purchased from the front office between 8:30am to 2:30pm. Prices are as follows:

School Shirt	\$25.00
Sport Shirt	\$25.00
School Jumper	\$40.00
Knitted Jumper	\$60.00
Shorts	\$25.00
Track Pants	\$25.00
Skirts	\$65.00
Senior Winter Skirt	\$70.00
School Jacket	\$60.00

Should you wish to purchase a jacket, they need to be paid for before the order is placed

EFTPOS, cash and cheques are accepted. **If paying via cash, we require the exact amount as no change is kept in the office.**

Office Hours

The front office will be open on Wednesday 27th January and Thursday 28th January 2021 **between 1:00pm and 2:30pm** to purchase uniforms.

From Friday 29th January 2021 the office will be open from 8:00am to 3:30pm each day.

School Holiday Information

Summer Reading Club: These holidays, we invite you to get reading! To join the Summer Reading Club Challenge, visit Gilgandra Shire Library to pick up a reading record bookmark, then read for ten hours. As you read, mark off a star on the bookmark for each book you read. When your bookmark is complete, return to the Library to pick up your certificate and a \$10 Cooee Cash Card! The Summer Reading Club Challenge will run until Friday 5 February 2021, and is open to everyone under the age of 19 years.

The Library is open from Monday to Friday, from 10am to 12.30pm, and from 1.30 to 5.00pm. Membership and loans are free for all Gilgandra residents. With a collection of over 20,000 books, audiobooks, magazines and DVDs, you are sure to find something you will enjoy. For more information, please phone 6817 8877 or email library@gilgandra.nsw.gov.au. The Library will be closed from 5pm on Tuesday 22 December and will re-open on Monday 4 January, 2021 at 10am.



CONNECTING & EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES



*** DRUG & ALCOHOL FREE EVENTS ***
PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE

COMMUNITY FOOTY FOR FUN DAY

Come along and enjoy some



Footy For Fun
Laser Tag — Fast 4 Tag
AND LOTS MORE!



Where: Earnie Knight Oval, GILGANDRA

19th January 2021 Time: 10.00 am—11.30 am

IMPORTANT

CCC will ensure all measures are taken to make this event as safe as possible during Covid-19. However, if you feel unwell please do not attend. Water bottles will not be supplied. Participants are encouraged to bring their own and there will be no sharing of water bottles.

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