

# Newsletter

TERM 2 :: Week 9 :: 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021



## From our Principal

### Formal Assembly

It was wonderful to see our students meeting high expectations of attendance, academic achievement and representation at Monday's formal assembly. The whole school came together with a number of parents to share in congratulating all those who crossed the stage. Over 40 students were commended for their attendance of over 95% and 100% attendance this year. Principal's awards were awarded to students who have received merit stars for their academic achievement.

### Online Reading

This week we launched ePlatform through our school library. ePlatform is an online borrowing facility for students to read on their digital devices. Student can download the free app or follow the link,

<https://www.eplatform.co/au/find-libraries/>

by searching Gilgandra High School and using their DoE computer logon to access and borrow from over 2000+ books. This is a wonderful addition to our already plentiful choice of books available.

### Sense of Belonging

We know students engage when they feel like they belong. Just as people belong to sporting organisations and proudly wear their team uniform when they grace the field, we at Gilgandra High School have the same expectations of students who belong to our school. We are a uniformed school and as such have high expectations of our students wearing uniform. We expect all our students to 'Dress appropriately by complying with the school uniform or dress code'. We acknowledge that the majority of our students are wearing school uniform, and they look great.

The school ensures that students are supported with the provision of uniform at no cost or financial support is provided to those in need. If you would like assistance to ensure your child is able to feel that they belong to GHS, please make contact with the year advisor or the Head Teacher Wellbeing. Below are links to the NSW DoE school uniform policy and the behaviour code for students to assist in understanding the importance of uniforms in schools.

<https://policies.education.nsw.gov.au/policy-library/policies/school-uniform-policy>

<https://education.nsw.gov.au/student-wellbeing/attendance-behaviour-and-engagement/student-behaviour/behaviour-code>



GILGANDRA HIGH SCHOOL

## BREAKFAST CLUB

Let's get you started for a great day at school!

Starting Monday 7th June

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

When: 8.30am - 8.50 am

Where: The HUB

What: Toast and hot chocolate

## Uniform Shop

Sloppy Joe	-	\$40
Sport Shirts	-	\$25
School Shirts	-	\$25
Track Pants	-	\$25
Shorts	-	\$25
School Jacket	-	\$60
Sports Socks	-	\$12
Calculators	-	\$30

**OUR UNIFORM  
MATTERS**

### COLA (Covered Outdoor Learning Area)

On Wednesday, the school COLA team met with representatives from the DOE Infrastructure team to discuss the specifications for the COLA project. Thank you to Mr Greg King from the P&C and Harry King from the SRC for joining in the discussion about the COLA that is expected to be completed in the 2021 calendar year.

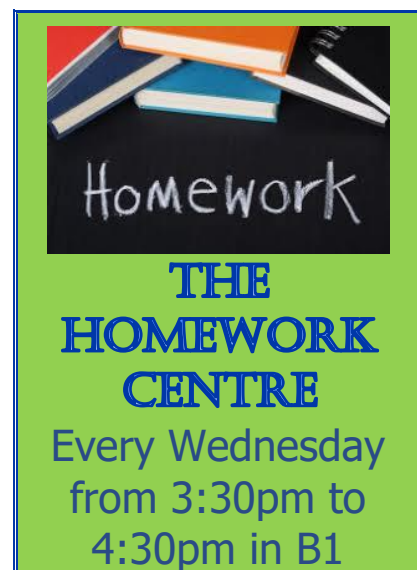
### Breakfast Club

The Breakfast Club is up and running at GHS. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday, toast and hot chocolates are available at the HUB to ensure that students are well fueled for a day of effective learning. Thank you to our volunteer teachers, admin staff, student support staff and student representatives, who give of their time before school to ensure that this is a successful addition to our daily practice.

*Erica Burge*  
Principal (RLG)

### Formal Assembly

Below are photos of some award recipients from Monday's formal assembly.





# Around our School



## **Principal**

Mrs Erica Burge (RLG)

## **Deputy Principal**

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**

Mrs Nadine Wilkin

### **Year 8**

Miss Nicola Murphy

### **Year 9**

Mr Andrew McCutcheon

### **Year 10**

Ms Madde Jewell

### **Year 11**

Miss Breanna Patton

### **Year 12**

Mrs Stacey O'Neill

## **P & C President**

Mrs Chantel Chandler

## **AECG President**

Ms Deidrie Naden

## **ARCO**

Mrs Meredith Schier

## **Australian History Competition**

Recently, a number of Gilgandra High students from Year 7 to 10 took part in the Australian History Competition. This is a national competition which aims to reward academic excellence in History and to foster an interest and love for the subject. It was wonderful to see so many students take part in the challenge. All students will receive a certificate of participation and those who achieve excellent results will be rewarded accordingly. This is the first time Gilgandra High School has run this competition so we are looking forward to the results.

## **Daniel Merza**

On Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June, Daniel visited Gilgandra High School. Daniel is a student wellbeing and leadership specialist, award-winning international speaker, teen coach and author. Daniel gave the students skills and techniques to show them how to deal with fear, cope with change, and adversity to meet their personal best. He used the analogy of "Monkeys on your Back". Students explored reasons that sometimes we don't make the most of opportunities presented to us. He encouraged students to become their own leader for life and showed them how to become the best version of themselves.





## From our Deputy

This week, I would like to congratulate the four students, Ryder Ryan, Trinity Zell, Madison Riley and Abby Tate for attending school 100% since the beginning of the year. I would also like to congratulate 36 other students who have an attendance rate of 95% or above.



*L to R: Abbey Tate, Madison Riley, Trinity Zell*

Attendance does matter and everyday your child attends school counts. Research highlights a clear correlation between student attendance and the achievement of quality academic, socio-economic and health outcomes. This research tells us that students with an attendance rate below 90% are educationally at risk.

Education for your child is important and regular attendance at school is essential for your child to achieve their educational best and increase their career and life options. NSW public schools work in partnership with parents to encourage and support regular attendance of children and young people. When your child attends school every day, learning becomes easier and your child will build and maintain friendships with other children.

Above 95% is our expected attendance rate. This equates to 9 days off in a school year.

On occasion, your child may need to be absent from school. Justified reasons for student absences may include:

- Being sick or having an infectious disease
- Having an unavoidable medical appointment
- Being required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- Exceptional or urgent family circumstances e.g. attending a funeral

Parents must provide an explanation for absences to the school within 7 days from the first day of any period of absence. Where an explanation has not been received within a 7-day timeframe, the school will record the absence as unjustified on the student's record.

A reminder about school uniform. You can order a school jacket for \$60, school jumpers can also be purchased for \$40 through the front office. If you are having difficulty in obtaining school uniform, please speak to the Head Teacher Wellbeing, Meredith Schier. This week random students who were in full school uniform enjoyed a milkshake. These students were Zac Ferguson, Olivia McClelland, Olivia Amiet, Jardi Naden, Skye Doherty, Tye Parker, Katie Smith-Louie, Sebastian Manus, Zach Jackson, Ry Heffer, Layney Godber, Dennis Gale, Bailey Castles-Peterson, Eva Raines, Lochy Henry, Nikisha Ireland, Henry Purvis, John Bunter, Lucy Davis, Coen Naden, Georgia Koch, Clayton Fanning and Alicia Byrne. I hope you enjoyed your milkshake.

*Ms Sheryn West*  
*Deputy Principal (RLG)*







On Tuesday 8th June, our school captains travelled to Sydney to participate in the Secondary Schools Student Leadership Program. When they arrived in Sydney they headed to the Lindt Cafe for breakfast, before assembling at Government House. The captains met with the Governor, Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazely and were given a tour of Government House. They then walked to NSW Parliament and were given an introduction, and spoke with Roy Butler, the local member for Barwon. The day finished off with some afternoon tea at Pitt Street Mall.



The Year 11 Agriculture students spent the day with Ian and Di McCutcheon on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June completing a farm case study on their farm "Berida". Ian took the students through all aspects of the farm including, livestock enterprises, technology, soil types, crop systems and pasture production. Students collected soil samples and will now use those to undertake Organic Matter, Ph and soil structure tests. All of this information will be used to complete their farm case study report. We would like to say a huge thank you to Ian and Di for providing our students with this fantastic opportunity.







### The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition

The Queen's Commonwealth Essay Competition is the world's oldest international writing competition for schools, established in 1883. With thousands of young people taking part each year, it is an important way to recognise achievement, elevate youth voices and develop key skills through creative writing. The 2020 theme was Climate Action in the Commonwealth. The following students were awarded for their creative writing:

- Abby Tate – Golden Finalist Award
- Kooper Fox – Gold Award
- Clayton Fanning- Bronze Award
- Lachlan Riley – Silver Award



*L to R: Abby, Clayton, Lachlan*

### The Career Experience

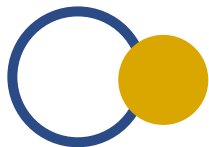
Thank you to Dr Katina Selvaraj who Zoomed with students on Monday to share her experience as a first year intern doctor at Concord Hospital. After 8 years of study, Dr Selvaraj graduated in 2021 and is in her first year of employment. Dr Selvaraj was able to shed light on the pathway to entering the medical field.

### Western Region Cross Country

A big congratulations to Sarah Chandler and Beaty Davis who have both qualified for the Western Region Cross Country team on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June. The girls tackled the tough course, and the conditions, at Geurie racecourse with Sarah coming in with a strong 2nd placing and Beaty not far behind in 4th. Awesome work girls and best of luck next term at Eastern Creek. *Pictured right: Sarah Chandler and Beaty Davis.*







### Year 8 Textiles

This term in Textiles, Year 8 students have been creating their own pair of shorts.



### Young Farmers Business Program Conference

Congratulations to Heidi Purvis on her winning submission for the Young Farmers Business Program Conference!

They thoroughly enjoyed reading her application and offered her one of only two student positions at the conference.

Heidi learnt so much from the experience and was grateful for the opportunity to network with the young leaders in the agricultural industry.

## Coming Up

**15<sup>th</sup> June**

U16s Rugby League at Narromine

**17<sup>th</sup> June**

AECG Meeting  
Booris Building

**18<sup>th</sup> June**

Commerce Business Studies  
Market Day at School

**23<sup>rd</sup> June**

Sydney University Zoom

**25<sup>th</sup> June**

Last Day for Term 2

**12<sup>th</sup> July**

Staff Development Day

**13<sup>th</sup> July**

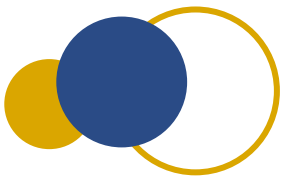
Students return for Term 3

## From our Parents and Citizens

The P and C exists in a school for two reasons: to promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, and teaching staff into close co-operation; and to assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and in promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school.

This month, our meeting started with positive reports from both Mrs Burge and Ms West. After Monday's formal assembly it was interesting to hear how the positive reward system works. A discussion was held around the uniform policy and how it is being handled in the school. The P and C support the wearing of uniforms at Gilgandra High School. We clarified the projects P and C provide financial assistance for throughout the year. These include sending the captains to Sydney to meet the Governor, presentation day scholarships and sport scholarships of \$50. If your child makes it onto a western or state team please complete a reimbursement application form. We also discussed future events where we could volunteer; including The Breakfast Club and Daffodil Day. If you are interested in promoting our school and the needs of our children, please consider joining the P and C.

*Chantel Chandler*  
P and C President



## Year 11 Visual Arts

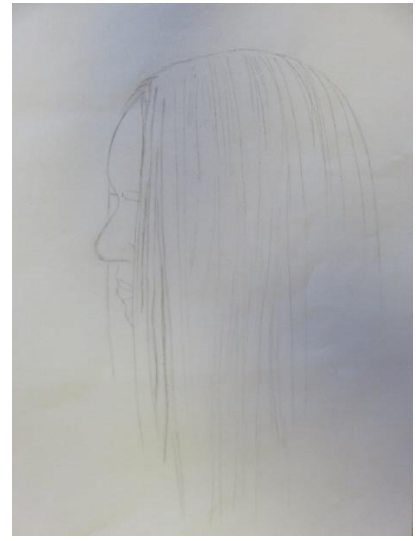
Below are Year 11 "Self as Artist" works.



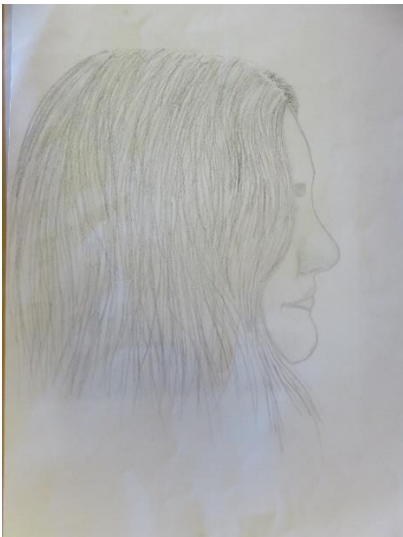
Laura Smith



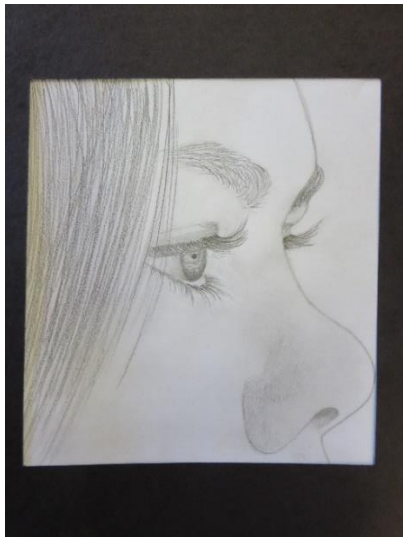
Jakiel Naden



Jasmine Newman



Breanna Dann



Monique Knight



Tamara Harland



Shanaye Dixon



Breanna Dann



Tamara Harland





Year 8 students have been doing a unit of work called "Places and Faces". They have also created their own aerial views called "Going Home, as well as a work using single-vanishing points.





# THE 5 MONKEYS

## Become the LEADER of YOUR LIFE!



DANIEL MERZA

INSPIRING TENACITY, OPTIMISM & EMPOWERMENT  
STUDENT WELLBEING SPECIALIST

Enzo  
THE EMOTIONAL MONKEY

I'm not smart enough

It's all too much!

negative self-talk

I'll never be able to achieve that

THE DISTRACTED MONKEY

Darryl

phones & devices

TV & gaming

social media

'A champion is just an ordinary person... with a laser-like focus.'  
- Bruce Lee

are you in control or does it control you?

do you know where you're going?

are you driven or are you drifting?

life's challenges are heavy

afraid of not fitting in

depressed

unhealthy relationships

Scouter  
THE SOCIAL MONKEY

afraid of rejection

'Ask for help, not because you're weak, but because you want to remain strong.'  
- Les Brown

Tyson  
THE TOUGH MONKEY

loneliness & isolation

trying to do it all alone

anxious

What do you see?

THE MONKEY IN "ME"

Moi



are you getting in the way of your own success?

'Self-awareness... comes from asking and answering hard questions.'  
- Stephen R Covey

The most important words you'll ever hear are the words you say to yourself.

## YOU are the CREATOR of YOUR STORY!