



## Girrawheen SHS December 2013 Newsletter



### From the Principal

Our final term of the year has been filled with a variety of excellent opportunities for our students. In the previous newsletter we acknowledged our Year 12 leavers. Our students completed their Year 12 exams and are now enjoying a well deserved relaxing holiday and some are taking up employment while they await their results. We wish them well and look forward to hearing from them.

Students in Years 6 - 7 from **Hudson Park, Roseworth, Marangaroo, Warripendi and Koondoola** Primary Schools have concluded taster courses at Girrawheen SHS. Our staff and mentor students have enjoyed providing them with an opportunity to get to know what secondary students participate in during their early years at high school. Our congratulations to the students from these primary schools as they were exemplary while at our school.

On **Friday 22 November** the Year 8 and 9 Performing Arts students entertained us with the most fabulous performances. It was great to see an array of productions as well as individual talent with the finale being a talent quest. We congratulate the students who successfully attained places in this competition. The talent within our school is outstanding and must be acknowledged. A special congratulations to **Ms Jenny Drpich** and **Mrs Heather Cargill** and the **Performing Arts Team**. They were supported by **Mrs Adele Riley** and **Mr Alistair Towers** (Practicum Teacher), **Jarrold Fraser** (former Year 12 student), members of **Heirisson Rotary** who cooked up a sausage sizzle and **many of our school staff** and **a number of volunteers**. We know that these events cannot occur without support and thank everyone for their valuable contributions.

In Week 7 we began our 2014 academic school year. To end the 2013 academic year, staff hosted a fun orientation day on the 22 November. Students were involved in some fun activities and a special Mexican taco lunch was supplied. **Mr Akrim Azimi**, Young Australian of The Year, was our special guest speaker and he outlined some of his life challenges and experiences that have supported him in attaining success. His sheer determination, positive attitude and a sincere eagerness to make the most of every day was highlighted. Students thoroughly enjoyed Akrim's story, inviting him to return to school. We look forward to meeting with him in the new year.

As a reward for a positive year, students in Years 10 - 12 were offered an opportunity to join in a river cruise. This was a great night with over 90 students attending. Many thanks to **Mrs Allen** who organised this enjoyable event.

On the final day of school **Mr Bennett** has scheduled a fun morning for Year 9 students. They will participate in a quiz, sport activities and laser tag. I know this will be a huge hit and an excellent way to end the year.

Over the past few weeks some work has begun to prepare for an Aboriginal boys' program that will take place in 2014. Girrawheen SHS was nominated to host this very engaging program. Mentor staff and program co-ordinators have met with parents, community members and Elders from within the locality of Girrawheen SHS, Wadjuk Country. In addition we are reviewing other support programs for students within our school.

In this final Newsletter of the year I would like to extend my respect and thanks to staff that will be leaving our school to take up positions within schools across the metropolitan area.

We farewell some amazing and long serving staff. **Ms Eva Nagy** is retiring after 24 years with the Department of Education, **Mr Paul Bennett** will be taking up a Head of Learning Area in Physical Education at Kent Street SHS, and **Mrs Maria Cameron** (nee Vocisano) will be teaching Politics and Law at Morley SHS, **Ms Lorraine Tunbridge** is also leaving to take up a position at Burbridge School. Other staff who have been integral to our school this year, who are also leaving include; **Mr David Bornshin** who has been appointed to Cyril Jackson SHS, **Ms Yvette Long** who has been appointed to Ashdale SC, **Ms Zola Watson** successfully attained a position at La Salle College, **Mr Jaime Haydn-Smith**, and **Mr Joseph White** are also leaving. Other staff on contracts have concluded; **Ms Melanie Hudson** and **Ms Natalie Cook**. We sincerely thank our staff and wish them every success and enjoyment at their new schools.

I would also like to thank everyone for their ongoing support throughout the year, in particular all staff, parents, our supportive P&C, our School Board, our canteen ladies, our wonderful cleaners and exceptionally hard working gardener, **Mr Tan**, who works to maintain our school garden.

I wish all students, parents and our school community members a relaxing, enjoyable break during the summer months. 2014 will be a positive new year, a new beginning and I look forward to returning.

My best wishes to you all.

*Rosalba Butterworth*

PRINCIPAL



### Girrawheen Senior High School

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

39 Calvert Way GIRRAWHEEN WA 6064 Phone: 9247 0555 Fax: 9343 3099

Email: [Girrawheen.shs@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:Girrawheen.shs@education.wa.edu.au)

#### SCHOOL VALUES

✓ Respect ✓ Responsibility ✓ Doing your best

#### SCHOOL PRIORITIES

✓ Numeracy/Literacy ✓ Positive Behaviour ✓ Attendance

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

**Wednesday 29 January 2014**

Book and Uniform shop open 9am to 2pm daily.

#### TERM DATES

**Term 1:**

Monday 3 February – Friday 11 April

**Term 2:**

Tuesday 29 April – Friday 4 July

**Term 3:**

Tuesday 22 July – Friday 26

September

**Term 4:**

Tuesday 14 October – Thursday 18

December

**STUDENTS START TERM 1 ON MONDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2014**

# GIRRA WORLD CUP SOCCER 2013 TOURNAMENT

Term four saw the return of the Girra World Cup Indoor Soccer Tournament. Open to all students from Year 8 - 11, nominations were received from five teams.

The "Girra Boys" with captain Solomon and his band of Year 9 guns; Kolo's "Wolves Pack" full of Year 10 legends; and the infamous "MLs" with Pal and his band of superstars from Year 8 through to Year 11 all joined in to make for a very competitive event.

After the round-robin group stage the finals were upon us. It was to be a blockbuster grand final between the undefeated "Dream Team", lead by Abdi, and the talented "CCB", lead by Truong. In the end, "Dream Team" with Abdi, Herman, Juma, Van, Thiak and Ngang were too strong and became deserved winners.



Congratulations to both **Herman** and **Juma** who shared the Golden Boot award for top scorer in the tournament. Both boys scored 9 goals.

# EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY INFORMATION DAY



On Tuesday 3 December **Jonathon** (School Chaplain), **Mr Passera** and 21 boys attended an academic information and Futsal competition day at Edith Cowan University in Joondalup.

Students from six different schools attended this event. After introductions all students and teachers assembled in one of the main lecture theatres to listen to three guest speakers. **Ron Smith**, performance analyst for the Socceroos, spoke to students on the topics of performance analysis, goal scoring patterns and general sports science in relation to soccer. Perth Glory player **Travis Dodd** then spoke to the students about his career, his life in general and the importance of higher education. He is a 33 year old coming to the end of a very successful career (Socceroos and European Soccer) but very thankful that he now has other avenues to pursue, thanks to his university studies. There was also a short talk at the end on available courses at ECU and the various ways in which students can gain entry to the university.

Then off to the sports centre for a Futsal (indoor soccer) interschool competition. Our two teams had lots of fun playing and interacting with the students from the other schools. Our Group 1 team even made it to the grand final, but unfortunately lost to Balga, 2 goals to 0.

The day finished with free lunch and a short survey before we headed back to Girrawheen. Well done to the boys on their excellent behaviour and thanks to ECU for their organisation. We look forward to further opportunities to visit the campus next year.

**Mr Passera**

# HOMEWORK CENTRE 2013

The Homework Centre at Girrawheen Senior High School operates every **Monday** and **Wednesday** in the school Library and is open for all students. This year has been a very busy year with increased student attendance. (Over 30 students)

The students bring along their school work to the Homework Centre where they receive further support as they work within a smaller group of students. A large group of tutors covering the areas of Math, English, S&E and other subjects are on hand to attend to students' needs and provide more attention to students on a one-on-one basis. It has been my pleasure to work with a great group of fantastic students who consistently achieve their best.

In recognition of all our tutors and to reward all students who have worked so hard this year, **Mrs Rosalba Butterworth**, our Principal, is very generously providing us a celebration afternoon tea which will be held on Wednesday 11 December in the Year 12 Common Room. Thanks Mrs Butterworth for your continuing support.

The students who regularly attend the Homework Centre received a Certificate for Participation presented by **Ms Anna Italiano** (Deputy Principal) at their assembly and an invitation to the afternoon tea to commend their hard work, attendance, and their motivation in always trying to do their best.

Congratulations to all the students. Keep up the good work!

We have to say goodbye to **Mr Heldt** who assisted students in Science at the Homework Centre Term 4 this year. We appreciate his time and wish to again have his wonderful support in 2015. Mr Heldt is taking leave next year.

We send our congratulation to **Ms Long** who will continue her teaching passion as a Home Economics teacher at Ashdale Secondary College.

Thank you to **all the tutors (Mrs Crowhurst, Mr Pantelis, Mr Ruhen, Mr Bughiu, Mrs Bell, Ms Williams, Ms Long, Ms Hutchings and Mr Heldt)** for their tireless efforts in the Homework Centre 2013. You all have been fantastic throughout the year and have been a delight to work with. Thank you for your excellent support and we look forward to a successful and exciting 2014.

We wish all parents, students and teachers at Girrawheen Senior High School a **Merry Christmas** and a **Happy New Year**.

**Ms Loan Tran ~ Homework Centre Co-ordinator**



# HISTORY NEWS

It has been a busy year. The Year 10 groups that did Courses of Study Stage 1 (SOSE 10A- HIA 1B – Ancient Rome and SOSE 10B - 1B India- Raj- Independence) have shown some fine results. These will be credited to their Year 11 and 12 courses. Year 11 Modern History students are now preparing their final year - more Australian History and Modern Chinese History. The 'new' History students in Year 11 are learning skills while immersed in Richard III's England. They will go on to study Australian History 1880s - 1920s and Nazi Germany. Last month we were informed that **Thi (Natalie) Vo** – Year 10 (2013) has won the 2013 Pulford Essay Competition. She will be presented with her prize at the first term assembly by the organisers of the competition. Well done. We welcome the new Year 10s to senior school. Mrs Wilczynski and myself are impressed by their interest in Australia's military history which we have focussed on to start the course and their knowledge of World War 1. The Year 10s are settling in well and adjusting to the rules and rigours of senior school. The Year 9s are looking at "Law and Government" and all teachers report that they are making a sound effort. We also look forward to welcoming the new Year 8s. To all students, a long holiday is well in order. We look forward to seeing you all ready to go in the new year.

**Ms Bolt and Ms Wilczynski**

## CANBERRA/SYDNEY 2013 TRIP



What an amazing time and opportunity was had by all staff and students who took part in this year's Canberra/Sydney trip! The students recently took part in a tour, participating in a variety of educational activities with the focus on Australia's history, culture, heritage and democratic traditions. The students that attended were: **Zoey Caple, Caitlin Ioppolo, Kristy Nguyen, Madison Pope, Brianna Rudisele, Gabby Weston, Jet-rik Bernal, Liam Carlisle, Phillip Kickett, Chudire Lap, Jayden Malpass and Xiaoyu Shi.**

There were many memorable and fun moments during the trip but a highlight was the participation of all our students in the annual Remembrance Day ceremony at the Australian War Memorial in which students, all looking smartly dressed in the school blazer, and with dignitaries such as the Governor-General, leading politicians, chiefs of the Defence Forces, and diplomats in attendance, were given the honour of directly taking part by laying poppies in memory of our war dead.

A member of the public was so impressed with our student's appearance and their conduct that she telephoned our Principal to inform her of her favourable impressions. This is something of course the students can be rightly proud of as they reflect on their contribution to the trip's success. In addition to this special moment, the students were also lucky enough to witness the swearing in of the recently elected Federal members of the House of Representatives including **Mr Luke Simpkins**, the local member for Cowan, to open the 44<sup>th</sup> Parliament of the Commonwealth, the appointment of the Speaker and all capped off by an ear-shattering 19 gun salute to mark this occasion outside Parliament House. During their time at Parliament House, Mr Simpkins made time in his busy schedule to visit and interact with the students during a role play debating a bill. Other places visited whilst in Canberra were the National Dinosaur Museum by torchlight at night (spooky!), the CSIRO, Questacon, Cockington Green (loved the steam train ride!) the National Gallery, the High Court, the Royal Australian Mint, the National Film and Sound Archives, the Australian Institute of Sport, Government House and the National Portrait Gallery. The students then travelled to Sydney for a mini-tour of its own interesting landmarks and some shopping time near Bondi Beach before taking the flight back home that evening.

Many individuals and organisations contributed to the success of the trip.

To make the cost of the trip more manageable, we would like to thank the school's P&C who has contributed generously to financing this trip. We would also extend our thanks to the Parliament and Civics Education Rebate (PACER), a Federal government funded subsidy provided through the National Capital Educational Tourism Project. The Australian Government recognises the importance of all young Australians being able to visit their national capital as part of their civics and citizenship education. We would like to thank the Australian Government for their support of this program. Our school's application has been approved so each student attending will be subsidised the maximum amount allowed of \$240 on the condition that eligible students complete the trip by attending a number of designated Canberra venues such as Parliament House, the Australian War Memorial and the Electoral Education Centre and many others.



Last but not least, special thanks to **Mrs Butterworth** our school Principal, who supported this initiative and to **Ms Newton** (Deputy Principal), the overall teacher in charge of the trip, and **Mr Andy King** who also accompanied the students and captured some wonderful images both in photo and film. This is also an opportune time to thank all those staff and parents who have supported this worthwhile experience for the students involved.

**Maria Vocisano**  
(organising and accompanying teacher)

# END OF YEAR SHOWCASE



The Year 8 and 9 Performing Arts Academy students successfully staged their 'End of Year Showcase' on Friday 22 November. This evening was a wonderful opportunity for the students to present some of their class work in Drama and Dance. In addition, the students were also invited to devise/choreograph an original performance item of their own.

The evening was a great success and was able to highlight the talent, energy and commitment of the Performing Arts Academy students. We sincerely thank all those who assisted on the night. Your support is greatly appreciated.

**Ms J Drpich**  
**Drama Co-ordinator**

# BREAKFAST CLUB



Breakfast Club provides a healthy breakfast for our school students, who may otherwise go to school hungry. Breakfast Club is a safe and welcoming environment where children can sit down and enjoy a nutritious morning meal with others and it is also a place where caring adults can be role models for our students. I want to say a huge thankyou to our volunteer's at breakfast club who come in every week to help serve food to our hungry students. I also want to wish all the students and staff with a Merry Christmas and safe holidays.

**Jonathan (Chaplain)**



Picture: This is the group of volunteers from Victory Life Church



- ☆ **Semester 2 2013 reports have been sent out to parents and guardians. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the School on 9247 0555 to make an appointment.**
- ☆ **The first day of school for term 1 2014 is Monday 3 February 2014.**

## **PARENTS AND GUARDIANS - PLEASE KEEP IN CONTACT**

Parents and Guardians please keep the school informed about your **current phone numbers** and advise the school as soon as possible if you change your **phone number**. Early next year we are moving to SMS and using a new process for monitoring student attendance.

Alerts will be sent to you if your child has not arrived at school or if they have left the school grounds. You will also be kept informed about important events and activities for your child or yourself.

We hope to improve our communication with parents and need your current contact details to achieve this goal.

## **BOOK AND UNIFORM SHOP OPENING HOURS 2014**

Will be open from **Wednesday 29 January 2014** from **9:00am ~ 2:00pm daily**.

### **SECONDARY ASSISTANCE SCHEME FORMS:** (Available from the book and uniform shop)

To be eligible for assistance of **\$235-00** towards fees/charges and **\$115.00** clothing allowance, parents or legal guardians must hold one of the following cards and have students who are born after **1 January 1996**:

- Centrelink Family Health Care Card
- Centrelink Pensioner Concession Card
- Veterans' Affairs Pensioner Concession Card (**Please note:** *The only Veterans' Affairs card that meets the criteria is a blue card that is issued each year and expires in December each year. This card is income means tested.*)

To receive the assistance, parents must complete their application before **28 MARCH 2014**.

### **UNIFORMS:**

All school polo shirts are **\$25-00** each. Windcheaters are **\$30-00** each for **Year 8 and 9**. Jackets are **\$40-00** each for **Years 10 - 12**. Red Physical Education t-shirts are **\$15-00** each.

If you have any enquiries please do not hesitate to contact the school on **9247 0555**.

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

### **CHANGE OF TIME – P&C MEETING**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We would like to invite you to the next **P & C Meeting** which will be held on **Monday 16 December 2013** at **6:00pm**. This will be a short meeting and will conclude at **6:30pm**. Please note that future **P & C Meetings** will commence at **6:30pm**.

### **40<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS MEETING**

Anyone interested in being on the Committee to help celebrate **Girrawheen Senior High School's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday** next year, the meeting will be held after the P & C meeting commencing at **6:30pm** and concluding at **7:30pm**.

If you have any enquiries or need further information please do not hesitate to contact me on **0439 964 433**.



# ANZAC TOUR APRIL 2014

**SINGAPORE & VIET NAM**

**8 DAYS**

**FROM 18 APRIL 2014 TO 25 APRIL 2014**

**(DURING TERM BREAK)**

**TOTAL PRICE (*Not to exceed*): AUD 2150.00.  
Including return airfare with Singapore Airlines.  
3\* accommodation, breakfast, lunch, transport and  
Anzac Ceremony.**



**THIS TRIP WILL GO AHEAD DEPENDING ON THE NUMBER OF  
STUDENTS WHO SHOW INTEREST BY DEPOSIT **AUD250.00** BEFORE  
**17 DECEMBER 2013.****

**ANY QUERIES AND COPIES OF THE FULL ITINERARY PLEASE  
CONTACT MS BOLT/MRS LOAN TRAN  
ON 9247 0555.**

**PLEASE NOTE THIS IS FOR YEAR 10 – 12 STUDENTS ONLY**