



Girrawheen SHS June 2015 Newsletter

From the Principal



Term 2 has progressed smoothly with a variety of ongoing in school and extra-curricular programs developed to enhance the performance of our students.

YEAR 10 PARENT COURSE COUNSELLING EVENING

On Wednesday 10 June, a parent and student information session for Year 10 students took place. This was to provide parents and their children an outline of the new WACE, ATAR and VET directions. Teachers leading these sessions provided information booklets and a brief outline of what is required for students in Year 11 and 12 to achieve a WACE and future opportunity at tertiary education or employment beyond school.

Staff met with parents and students following the information session to answer any queries. This proved to be a successful evening. Thank you to all parents and students for their attendance, this will provide strong support to assist students make positive and strong decisions in relation to study in Year 11&12.

A team of teachers will be meeting individually with Year 10 students and their parents to determine what courses they may intend to take in 2016 and 2017. If you were unable to attend this session please ensure that you contact the school to make an appointment with Course Counselling teachers. If you have any queries please direct these to **Mr Miln** (Dean of Studies).

YEAR 10 CAREER WEEK

To enhance and support Year 10 students choosing their future courses a careers week was held at school offering students a chance to listen to guest speakers from

Training Organisations and Industries. In addition some further information was provided to support students in study skills development and dealing with stress. **Ms Philomena Rourke** hosted a Mindfulness session with students. A successful week was had with students seriously considering their futures and asking valuable questions relating to Year 11&12.

EXCURSIONS

Excursions are additional to student learning. As extra-curricular activities, excursions enhance student opportunities. This term there have been numerous excursions. These include Clontarf Football games, Clontarf camps, Year 8, 9, and 10 Lightning Carnivals, Basketball games, Soccer games, after school Netball sessions, Unity performances, work placements and a visit to the Dalai Lama. In addition, a Year 10 and 11 Australian Business Community Network (ABCN) girls mentoring program is taking place with students attending Stockland headquarters in Central Perth. Ten girls from GSHS have the chance to work shadow a variety of personnel to view jobs available in corporate enterprise. The girls are accessing great experience and insight into these careers.

UNITY

Congratulations to our Unity team who won a first and third place in their sections of the Dance Unite Competition in May. Once again, Unity competed against an array of other dance schools. They certainly shone on stage and continue to make our school community proud of them. The Unity junior and senior teams are competing in the

State Championships on 27 and 28 June at Arena Joondalup. We wish them ongoing success with their performances. Some Unity members are also performing as part of a Primary School tour on 24, 25 and 29 June at Roseworth, Hudson Park and Rawlinson Primary Schools.

HEALTH PLANS

Our school works hard to ensure that we support all students requiring support with any health and well-being concerns. If your child has any allergies, requires medication during the school day, or requires other support it is vital that you inform the school. Together with parents, school administration, doctors and the school nurse, a plan will be developed to support your child. This serves to act as a preventive measure of a procedure to follow should your child have any reaction. If we are unaware we will not know how to help your child. Please call front reception or the deputies if you have not already informed us of your child's medical needs.

FACILITIES UPGRADE

This term we have been fortunate to undergo a facilities upgrade with painting and re-carpeting taking place in Senior School and the Performing Arts Centre (PAC). Whilst a delay in this upgrade has caused some disturbance to all sharing these facilities this short term works project will have some long term positive effects. Senior School and the PAC have not had an upgrade for numerous years. With the support of the Education Department of WA we are appreciative of this work.



Girrawheen Senior High School

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

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SCHOOL VALUES

✓ Respect ✓ Responsibility ✓ Doing your best

SCHOOL PRIORITIES

✓ Numeracy/Literacy ✓ Positive Behaviour ✓ Attendance

TERM DATES FOR 2015

SEMESTER 1

Term 2:

Tuesday 21 April – Friday 3 July

SEMESTER 2

Term 3:

Tuesday 21 July – Friday 26 Sept

Term 4:

Mon 12 October – Thurs 17 Dec

SCHOOL BUSY BEE

On Saturday 27 June between 10.00am and 2.00pm a large group of volunteers provided to us via the US Consul General have offered to donate their time to our school to assist us with a Busy Bee. A rejuvenation and renewal project of the gardens across the school is being developed. Landcorp has generously donated a large pile of mulch for the garden. We require wheel barrows and pitch forks for the day, as well as any plants or cuttings that can be planted across the school. If you can be of assistance please contact **Mr Alan Hughes**. The school is also seeking any parents able to assist P&C with a sausage sizzle for our guests. If you can help please contact **Mr Andrew Locke** (P&C President).

REPORTING TO PARENTS NIGHT

Wednesday 1 July 12.00- 7.00pm.

On Wednesday 1 July our annual Reporting to Parents day is taking place. On this day students will conclude school at 11.20am to go home, then return to school with parents and carers to collect their report and meet with teachers regarding their progress. This is an extremely valuable and important opportunity for parents to have a personal meeting with teachers to discuss student results, how students can improve and how teachers and parents can work in partnership to help students.

Reports can only be picked up at the school on July 1. If you are unable to attend on this day please make contact with either **Mr Miln** (Dean of Studies), **Ms Allen** and **Ms Karman** (School Behaviour Coordinators).

Students attendance is encouraged on the morning of the Reporting to Parents day as **Ms Allen** and **Ms Karman** have scheduled a Positive Behaviour Wellness Morning with a variety of guests speakers that include Headspace, Youth Beat, SARC and the Community Police. Students across the school will rotate to listen to and participate in activities that these guest speakers offer.

ATTENDANCE SMS

Recently the school installed a new attendance program and SMS system to provide parents with information about their child's attendance on a daily basis. The SMS is sent to parents after 10:00am if their child is either absent from school or late into school.

To ensure that this new system is working effectively it is important that all parents and carers update their phone details.

Each time you change your phone number please let the school know as soon as possible. This system is critical to your child's safety letting you know if your child has not arrived to school as well as ensuring that your child is attending and receiving the education they are entitled to. Thank you to parents who have provided us with feedback with our new system as this has helped us tweak some glitches. Please note that anything you text back to the school is read and recorded by administrative staff on student files.

A reminder that all absences significantly impact on a student's performance. Your support with enforcing your child's attendance will be extremely beneficial.

STUDENT PICK UPS AND DROP OFFS

A reminder that student pick up and drop off are located on Calvert Way and Girrawheen Avenue in the drop off and pick up zones. Vehicles should not be driving through the staff car park as this increases the chance of student incidents.

A recent concern with parents making illegal U-turns in Calvert Way was reported to the school as a near miss with another car was witnessed. While the City of Wanneroo traffic personnel have met with me to try and assist with this, I continue to remind parents and carers to drive with caution.

STAFFING UPDATE

Ms Newton (Deputy, Senior School) will be on three weeks long service leave until the end of this term. **Mr Miln** will be relieving Deputy during this time. If you have any Senior School matters to discuss please make contact with **Mr Miln**.

We farewell **Ms Paula Wearing** (Education Assistant) who has meritoriously won an EA position at Belridge Education Support Centre. **Ms Wearing** has been a great asset to our school, she will be missed. We wish Ms Wearing every success in her new school.

School concludes on Friday 3 July for school holidays, we wish all students a relaxing break. Students return to school Tuesday 21 July.

Rosalba Butterworth
PRINCIPAL

2015

Dates to Remember Term 2 – Term 3

Monday 22 June

Semester 2 begins Year 7-10

Thursday 25 June

Whole School Assembly Period 5

Tuesday 30 June

Year 7 Lightning Carnival

Wednesday 1 July

Reporting to Parents

Afternoon – Evening 12 – 7pm

Friday 3 July

Term 2 Ends

Monday 20 July

Staff return to School –

Professional Development Day

Tuesday 21 July

Students return to school

STRANGER DANGER

This is a safety reminder to all students when travelling to and from school:

Travel in a group or at least pairs

Report suspicious behaviour to the School, Parents and the Police

Phone Police immediately on 000 if you are confronted

Stay in areas that are well lit and walk on the right hand side of the road facing oncoming traffic

Never accept a lift from a stranger

Run from a situation if you feel at risk

Be alert as to what is happening around you.

Take note of the number plate if you are in a position to do so

**STRANGER
DANGER**

BIGGEST MORNING TEA

On Wednesday the 27th May the Year 11 Food Science and Technology class held the Biggest Morning Tea to raise funds for the Cancer Council of Western Australia. Staff could attend for a donation and enjoy a selection of sweet and savoury food items and a hot drink. The morning tea raised \$140 and the students gained valuable hospitality experience.

Amanda Hales
Home Economics Teacher



INDUSTRY VISITS

During Term 2 our 10C students visited a number of State Training Providers, (TAFE) and industries investigating career pathways. The latest visit was to Warwick Police Station. The students were able to test the facilities at the station and discuss with the officers many aspects of a policing career.

Carol Gould
VET CO-ORDINATOR





Year 8 and 9 Interschool Carnivals

The Year 9s (28 May) and the Year 8s (16 June) showed up in force for their interschool lightning carnivals. We again performed well against the five other senior high schools in our area.

Teams for girls' soccer, girls' netball, boys' soccer and boys' basketball enjoyed the great weather as well as the opportunity to compete against and socialise with students from other schools. Once again our students were well behaved, good sports and a credit to our school.

Thanks again to **Mrs Raszkawajski**, **Mr Oddy** and **Mr Bughiu** for their involvement.

Mr. Passera (Physical Education Department)



CAREERS WEEK

This week our Year 10 students have been partaking in Careers Week in an effort to inspire, motivate and provoke thought around their future career opportunities. Students have been exposed to everything from TAFE options to Tax File Numbers and everything in between. Careers week is a lead into course counselling for the students around Year 11 subject selection. If you haven't already made a Course Counselling appointment please contact the school to do so. Many thanks go to **Mrs Gould** and her team for all the hard work put into an informative and enjoyable week.



GSHS CANTEEN..... Promoting healthy food

Schools and their canteens are well placed to support healthy eating and in fact have a vital role to play in helping to reduce the worldwide epidemic of childhood obesity. Children should eat a wide range of foods so that they have the energy for learning and growing. A 'traffic light' system is in place to help public schools plan menus full of healthy, nutritious and affordable food and drinks.



The standards require that foods in the:



GREEN categories are encouraged. Schools should aim to fill their menus with these healthy foods.



AMBER foods should be selected carefully and eaten in moderation.



RED food and drinks are off the menu and will not be available in public schools.

Nutrition and physical activity messages are being taught in the classroom to promote healthy lifestyles. The standards for healthy food and drink choices in public schools are consistent with these curriculum messages and apply to canteens and food services, class treats and cooking activities, school camps and excursions.

Parents are encouraged to use the GREEN AMBER RED system at home too. Our School Canteen and Health Education staff promote and support the School Canteens healthy traffic light system.

HOUSING CRISIS COMMITTEE IS PRESENTING A

LET'S TALK HOUSING FORUM

Friday 26 June 2015

10:30am – 12:30pm

Herb Graham Recreation Centre (38 Ashbury Crescent, Mirrabooka)

- ❖ Kate Davis Tenancy WA – tenancy implications of DV
- ❖ Nihal Iscel EDAC – accessible and affordable housing for people with disabilities
- ❖ Ken Marston COTA – housing options for seniors
- ❖ Service providers to give a brief two minute overview of the services they offer to people in search of affordable housing
- ❖ Networking
- ❖ Please RSVP for catering purposes and if you would like to do a two minute presentation of your service please contact Mandy Whitton mandy.whitton@education.wa.edu.au ASAP to secure your spot.

Communities of Myanmar info session

Family services would like to invite you to attend a **COMMUNITIES OF MYANMAR (BURMA)** info session on **Saturday 27 June 2015** at the **Mirrabooka Cultural Centre** from **9:30am -12:30pm** (registrations from 9:00am)

This information session is targeted to Service providers and will be facilitated by members of the Myanmar communities. These include the Karen, Karenni, Chin, Kachin, Mon, Dawer and Burman communities.

Topics to be covered throughout the session:

- ❖ Myanmar communities
- ❖ Which communities have migrated to Australia
- ❖ Reasons for settling in Australia
- ❖ Participation in community life – how can we assist in encouraging community participation
- ❖ Cultural and religious practices – sensitivities

Four members of the Myanmar communities will give brief presentations on their personal experiences (why they left their home country, their journey to Australia, visa processing – impact of detention), a Q&A session will follow.

To end the session you are invited to stay back and share a traditional Burmese lunch alongside local members of the Myanmar community.

Bookings are essential, to register please visit www.cosmyanmar.eventbrite.com



Sausage Sizzle

**Help Girrawheen Senior High School.
P & C raise money for the school.
Come and meet some P & C members.**

**Buy a sausage sizzle for \$3-00 or two for \$5-00.
In front of the Library on Wednesday 1 July 2015
(Reporting to Parents afternoon)
12:00noon - 7:00pm**