



GIRRAWHEEN SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

2015

Have you enrolled your child in high school for 2016?

We are now accepting enrolments for Year 7s and beyond.

Call us on 9247 0555 to:

- arrange a personal tour
- request an enrolment pack, or
- to find out more

We look forward to welcoming you and your child into the GSHS community.

"What is so special about Girrawheen SHS?"

Girrawheen is so special to me because they have wonderful, fun programs that run after school. They also have very caring people. The best part about coming to school is being able to see all my friends and enjoying the day. I also love the opportunity I get to learn new things.

Lisa Guo, Year 7

"Who is your favourite teacher and what makes them so good?"

I don't have a favourite teacher, I like all of them because they all want to help you with your education and want you to have an amazing future.

Joanne Lai, Year 7



Year 12 student Kennedy with Principal, Rosalba Butterworth

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Term 3 continues to be filled with an abundance of academic, sporting and extra-curricular undertakings such as excursions, camps and positive behaviour reward events. Everything that teachers provide your child with an opportunity to be involved in, not only adds value to their overall education, it strengthens our school values of Respect, Responsibility, and Doing Your Best. In providing our students with a variety of experiences staff aims to provide your child with a supportive learning environment whereby every student is valued for striving to achieve success as an active Australian citizen, in their chosen field. This newsletter has many outlines from key staff based on what has occurred during this term.

Former Prime Minister Visit

On Friday 21 August 2015 our school's Co-presidents, Dylan, AJ and I were invited by our Federal Member, Mr Luke Simpkins to a luncheon to meet the former Prime Minister, Tony Abbott. Several students and teachers from schools in the Division of Cowan were also in attendance. This is an historical opportunity whereby the young leaders of our school had a chance to meet with the nation's leader of the time. Mr Abbott was very welcoming to our students. Whilst his schedule was full with so many guests to speak with, Mr Abbott had an informal and pleasant chat with AJ. Our school leaders had an opportunity to meet senior students from surrounding schools and speak with dignitaries. Both young men are to be congratulated on their ability to be able to meet and greet public figures. As always our Co-Presidents were excellent Ambassadors for our school.



Former Prime Minister and Principal Rosalba Butterworth with GSHS Co-Presidents AJ and Dylan

Transition for Year 6 Students

Transition has begun in earnest with a **Give It A Go Day** on Wednesday 16 October and Wednesday 23 October for students from local primary schools. The Give It A Go Day was a day for students to get to know



Year 6 Students from our local Primary Schools visiting Girrawheen SHS for 'Give it a Go Day'

the layout of our school and have some fun in some of the classes. Students have been treated to Woodwork, Sports, Home Economics and English classes. In addition they watched our Year 10 YOHFEST Performers who entertained them with an exemplary play that achieved "Most Impressive Production Value" at a performance recently. Students were excited and thoroughly enjoyed their day at the school. During Term 4, students in Year 6 who will be enrolling in our school will also have a Transition Day informing and preparing them for life at Girrawheen SHS. Parents of Year 6 students who have not enrolled their child in high school are encouraged to do so as early as possible. We welcome any queries you may have.

Recently local Primary School Principals have met with senior staff and I to discuss future plans to further develop a partnership and greater relationships with students and staff from our local primary schools. Our focus will be primarily centred on teachers sharing literacy and numeracy practices, in addition to giving Year 6 students a chance to become associated with secondary schooling in other learning areas much earlier in the year. As plans develop for 2016 you will be kept up to date of the activities ahead. We are excited about these plans and thank our Principals and their teachers for their enthusiasm.

Year 12 Students

It is that time of year again with our Year 12 students finalising assessments, in the ready to sit their final exams and preparing to leave our school. On FRIDAY 23 OCTOBER our Year 12s will be attending their final, formal event at the school with their Awards Ceremony. While it is sad for parents and staff knowing that our Year 12 students are leaving there are exciting times ahead as they have great futures in the pathways they have chosen.

I wish the Year 12 students well as they prepare for the next phase of their lives.

As holidays approach I wish all students and staff a relaxing break and remind students that school will recommence on **MONDAY 12 OCTOBER** as the staff professional development day for this term is Friday 20 November. This was endorsed by School Council in 2014.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

MONDAY 12 OCTOBER:

- Students return to school

16 October:

- Final Assembly Year 12

19 October:

- P & C Meeting @ 6:30pm ~ all welcome

20 October:

- Year 8 Immunisation

23 October:

- Year 12 Awards Night

Rosalba Butterworth

PRINCIPAL



STUDENT PUPIL FREE DAY
FRIDAY 20 NOVEMBER 2015

CERTIFICATE II IN HAIRDRESSING

After participating in a Work placement at Salon Express, Connie Baker has secured a Traineeship. Connie will attend Salon Express each Thursday where she will begin her training which will last for 18 months. When she completes the traineeship she will receive 6 months credit towards an apprenticeship.

While Connie is training she will be paid for the day she attends Salon Express or any other training that she is required to do. Connie will need to complete written competencies as well as practical tasks. She will be very busy keeping up with her school work and meeting the requirements of the traineeship. Connie is to be congratulated on this outcome as it was through her motivation and excellent work ethic that she has been given this opportunity of a traineeship.

Carol Gould

VET Coordinator



Connie with her Traineeship at Salon Express

House Athletics/Fun Carnival

It was 6.30am on the 28 August and the Physical Education staff nervously gathered around the office computer to view the day's weather forecast and radar images. Seventy per cent chance of rain and possible storms - Oh dear! Passera was leaning towards cancelling and rang Principal Butterworth for her views. The astute level six with an obvious talent for weather forecasting positively announced that it would be fine and we should push ahead. Thankfully we did.

At 9.00am the students assembled into their Houses for the all-important 'march-in' to the oval. Every year this event gets bigger with teams eager to impress. Colourful costumes coordinated marching, loud, incoherent chants, drums and other loud instruments made for a great spectacle.

After a short welcome speech from Mrs Butterworth the competitors were raring to go. In light rain, out they trundled to their stations (discus, 100m, big-ball-soccer, tug-o-war, shot put, lap-a-thon, long jump, target soccer, corn hole and 5v5 basketball) to commence the day's battle. The competition was fierce as students attempted to accumulate points for both the individual champion awards and the winning house trophy.



At 2.00pm, after the last of the eight rotations, the students again assembled in their House bays to witness the ever-popular 100m relay races. We even had time for a staff versus year 12s Tug-O-War and a staff versus Year 12s 100m relay race. We'll call the Tug-O-War a draw but unfortunately the teachers were 'smashed' in the relay. Even with a quite substantial head start the decrepit, old teachers had no answer to the blistering pace of the lithe, agile and powerful youngsters.

A great day was had by all and it was an absolute pleasure to see our students embrace the fun of the event. They dressed up in House colours, competed hard, encouraged each other, worked well in teams and enjoyed each other's company.

Congratulations to House leaders - Beattie, Faizal, Drpich and co-captains Michelle (Moose) and Aaron. ACACIA - a well-oiled, superbly drilled, athletic juggernaut that left the others wallowing in their wake won the day.

Final results:

1 st	Acacia	11240
2 nd	Dryandra	9210
3 rd	Banksia	9200
4 th	Caladenia	8300

Year 7	Champion Boy	Ramses Tewo
	R/U Champion Boy	Nakoti John
Year 7	Champion Girl	Christine Buelva
	R/U Champion Girl	Aurora Plenerleith
Year 8	Champion Boy	Omer Gedwia
	R/U Champion Boy	Khalid Muhumed
Year 8	Champion Girl	Jayda Feifar
	R/U Champion Girl	Isabel Juhas Lanchares
Year 9	Champion Boy	Justin Arbuckle
	R/U Champion Boy	Dean Quinn
Year 9	Champion Girl	Margaret Tran
	R/U Champion Girl	Vanessa Kaji Kalau
Year 10	Champion Boy	Christopher Tilley
	R/U Champion Boy	David Kyalondawa
Year 10	Champion Girl	Kate Naylor
	R/U Champion Girl	Easter Nyolic
Year 11/12	Champion Boy	Juma Awaka
	R/U Champion Boy	Ngang Lual
Year 11/12	Champion Girl	Brittney Sims
	R/U Champion Girl	Achia Onesimo







News from Clontarf.....

Nine students from Girrawheen Clontarf Academy set off for the busy city of Melbourne, Victoria for seven days of business and pleasure. Prior to departing for Melbourne at Perth airport, the boys bumped into Ross Kelly, Clontarf Foundation Chairman. After some quick introductions we wished each other safe and happy travels.

We landed at 4.00pm EST and made our way to Hotel Claremont Guest House in South Yarra, a great spot to base ourselves for the week. After a very quick unpack we were out the door to the Jam Factory for dinner and a movie. On the way home we ran into the great Danny Green, where he and his entourage were out celebrating his latest fight. All the boys managed to obtain signatures and photos with the great man. Thanks Danny for spending the time with the boys.



Friday 21 August was a busy day with the National Sports Museum/MCG Tour, then over to Collingwood FC and Holden Centre facility for tours. We had lunch on the run and bumped into Michael Voss for a quick photo, then departed for Etihad Stadium where we watched an AFL game, Hawthorn vs Port Power. What a great game to start the weekend of football in Melbourne!



Saturday 22 August was again a very busy day with shopping at Victoria Markets. We then tried to squeeze in a North Melbourne training session on the way to the MCG for the block buster game Collingwood vs Richmond. 63,000 plus turned out to watch the Tigers smash the Magpies in a very one sided contest, still it was great to be at the 'G' for such a big game. We headed home for pizza and bed.

Sunday 23 was a lazy day as we only had more shopping to do in Melbourne CBD and then back to Etihad Stadium, for North Melbourne vs Fremantle. The Dockers were disappointing, but Youngy was happy for the 'Roos' to get the points. We made our way back to South Yarra for dinner at La Porchetta Italian restaurant.

Monday 24; we had a fair bit planned for the day, with a trip to Bunjilaka Aboriginal Cultural Centre and Melbourne Museum. We had lunch on the run again as we headed for the Shrine of Remembrance. Then we departed for Eureka Sky Deck Tower, southern hemispheres highest public viewing point. Some of the boys were a bit hesitant to go up the tower but once they got there they had great time. Following this we had a short walk to Galactic Circus, where the boys had three hours of fun and games, working our way to Crown food court for dinner then the short train ride home.



Tuesday 25 was the business part of the trip. We met Mark (Bomber) Riley, Victorian Clontarf Community Partnership Manager at Spotless Group, Melbourne office on St Kilda road at 9.00am. We also met with Nicole Pianta, Spotless National Workforce Planning Manager and her staff. All the boys had a job to do, which started with Anthony Roberts presenting a Power Point presentation to the Spotless staff. The rest of the boys: Dylan Wallam, Sheldon Kitto, Jacob McPhee, Liam McPhee, Travis Ruffin-Maher, Claude Lyndon, Khyle Ugle and Jack Butler-Olofsson, performed a traditional dance in front of the whole Spotless Group staff, over 100 people. All the boys are to be congratulated on a fantastic display of Clontarf values.

We then hopped back on the tram for the Holden Centre for the only game of football that we played. Combining with Bairnsdale Clontarf and Northam Clontarf academies, we played against Melbourne Grammar School, with 1,800 students from Pre-primary to Year 12. This is a big football school in Melbourne. The combined Clontarf team started the first half sluggishly with only five points scored and Grammar four goals two points. After halftime with some great coaching from Chippa, adding the 18th player to our team, we managed to make a game of it, finishing only nine points behind at the final siren. Thanks to Turk and the Bairnsdale boys for organising the game.



We finished off the trip with some last minute shopping and received an invitation from Marley Williams (Collingwood player) for dinner at his house, an offer too good to refuse. After some navigation problems, we made it to Marley's house in Port Melbourne, with the BBQ all fired up and introductions made we settled in for the night. Dinner, then X-BOX games, where Marley dominated all comers. Thanks to Marley and his fiancé Ele for their kind hospitality.

We made it home with no problems. All the young men who attended the Melbourne camp are to be congratulated on the display of Clontarf Values, you have done yourselves proud.

The HASS Department has been busy this month especially aware that the Year 12s (History and Career & Enterprise) leave shortly. Some special events our students have been involved in include:

Vietnam Veterans' Commemoration Service at King's Park on August 16, 2015

A number of our students attended this event in the tradition of the last three years. Dylan Gould (Co-President), Anthony Bui, Truong Le, Nghia Le, Thaw Gay Saw Paw, Kayla Bramley (all Year 12s) and Salina Tairoski (Year 11) all showed their support on this Sunday morning. As well Dylan's mother, Mrs Gould, and Kayla's grandfather, Craig, a Vietnam Vet were in our party. Mrs Butterworth, Mrs Tran and I made up the rest of the Girrawheen SHS party. There were many Vets at the service, some of whom spoke to our students. The Vietnamese community was also well represented, many women in national costume and a number of cadets. Our students also had the opportunity to catch up with Richard Williams (President of the VVA –WA) and Mrs Griffin (US Ambassador). It was a pleasant day and a special event. Thanks to those who attended.



Constitutional Centre of WA Convention on September 8 & 9, 2015

Some of our Year 11 History, and Politics and Legal students had the opportunity to attend a convention on human rights on the Tuesday. It was hosted in West Perth at the Constitutional Centre's historical buildings and gardens. Many had to negotiate their own way there which involved city traffic and a variety of public transport. The day's topics focused on current constitutional matters and particularly on whether Australia needs a Bill of Rights. Our students shared ideas with like-minded Year 11s and all enjoyed the experience. Thanks to Mollie Jenkinson, Jordyn Nisbet - Rini, Solomon Turuneh, Daniel Abraham, Jazley Ngyuen, Daizy Mae Leis, Amal Moalin, Tram Ngo and Jet-rik Bernal for representing the school as motivated participants. Thanks to Lisa from the Constitutional Centre for such a stimulating event.



Three Types of Government: Year 9s - Law, Government & Economics Unit, September 1, 2015

The Constitutional Centre Educational Officer, Lisa Belde, visited our school to host an incursion for Year 9A and Year 9B HASS classes. Organized by Year 9 HASS Coordinator, Garry Noack, the in-class sessions were valuable in furthering the students' knowledge on the three types of government within Australia. Thanks to Lisa for providing interactive lessons for both classes that kept the students engaged and interested.

Elections for Year 9s - Law, Government & Economics Unit, September 15, 2015

The Electoral Commission came out to offer their expertise in educating our students on the election process.

Thanks, Jackie Bolt and Garry Noack (HASS teachers)

"YOH FEST" DRAMA PERFORMANCE

The Year 10 Performing Arts Academy Drama students represented our school in the annual YOH Fest (Youth on Health Festival) in Mandurah on Thursday 10 September. A requirement of the festival is to write and perform a 20 minute play based on a given theme. This year, the theme was EQUALITY. After weeks of drafting, editing and rehearsal, the students produced a highly innovative, educational play titled "Everyone has a Heart". There are approximately 90 entries in the YOH Fest competition this year. To proceed to the Grand Final in October, we will need to receive one of the top eight scores. This is highly possible given the outstanding performance our students gave in their heat performance. I am truly pleased with the quality of this performance and this is indicative of the skill and talent of our students. Thank you in particular to Mrs Riley, Mrs Bigwood and Mr Cantwell who worked tirelessly to help with our costumes, set and props. Your hard work is truly appreciated.



"DESTINY" PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE

On Saturday 12 September, approximately 90 students across Years 7 – 12 lit up the stage in our schools annual Performing Arts Showcase "Destiny".

The audience was treated to over two hours of dynamic, entertaining dance and drama items. Our students were truly amazing on stage! Their confidence and skill level have improved immensely and we are most proud of their progress.

An event such as "Destiny" takes months of preparation. The students worked hard in and out of class time to rehearse their performance items and as such, they should be commended for their dedication and commitment. To everyone who assisted with the showcase, thank you so much. The support of staff members, parents and ex – students in helping to make the night a success was truly remarkable. Without your support, it simply couldn't happen.

We look forward to seeing what the 2016 Performing Arts showcase brings!

Ms Jenny Drpich
Performing Arts Teacher

