One of our Year 11 girls has been selected to attend the UBS Young Women’s Leadership Academy which will be held at Sydney University from Monday 15 April until Friday 19 April. The workshop is designed to introduce Year 11 students to a diverse group of contemporary women leaders to demonstrate the possibilities and satisfaction of a career in business. It encourages leadership aspirations in young women through leadership skills development. She is an excellent candidate and will gain many useful skills and self confidence. Well done.

Congratulations also to Dane Collison who has been selected to attend the 2013 Dobell Drawing School at the National Art School in April. He too will learn valuable skills and tips from practising artists. Both students have been provided with a wonderful opportunity through the efforts of their teachers, Mrs Schier and Mrs Nalder.

Our Years 9, 10 and 11 Agriculture students have enjoyed an excursion to the Royal Easter Show. I am sure they not only had fun but learnt quite a lot as they viewed a play, saw the sights and explored opportunities.

It is so pleasing to see the attendance rate at over 90%. Many thanks to the parents who are supporting this. Remember notes or phone calls to explain an absence need to be in within 7 days of the absence. It is vital for your child to be here and doing the right thing. A reminder for those students who are signing in late …. these absences are being noted against your records.

Thanks to Snr Constable Marty Paice who last week presented workshops to students about issues related to verbal and physical aggression. We have booked him for further workshops dealing with leaving a positive digital footprint, drugs and alcohol. He will also be involved in mentoring students.

We are monitoring late comers with the Home School Liaison team and again reinforce the importance of being on time for school. It is also important to remember that students, for their own safety, need to be on school grounds at all times. Those who are leaving school grounds without permission are being dealt with according to the attendance policy and will receive warnings, detentions, and perhaps a suspension if they do not comply.

Plans are underway to evaluate the curriculum, the subjects we offer the students and the structure of our days. Parents have been invited to attend these sessions so they can have input into the decisions and processes to change structures if applicable. P&C and AECG will also be included at each step of the way if they wish to. Students will also be asked to be involved as we will be evaluating the present offerings. Our aim is to ensure we are presenting the best subject choice.

Regards, Cheri McDonald
LUNCH PASSES

Our lunch pass program makes provision for those students who wish to go home for lunch to do so. Students that are issued with a lunch pass agree to accept the responsibilities that come with this.

One of these is that students are to return to school by 12:45pm (Wednesday 1:50pm). Persistent lateness back from lunch will result in the student having their lunch pass revoked.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Regular attendance at school is essential to assist students maximise their potential. If your child has to be absent from school, it is important to advise the school and provide a reason for the absence.

To explain an absence parents and carers may:
• send a note
• telephone or fax the school
• visit the school.

Justified reasons for absences may include if the student:
• has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment
• is sick
• is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral).

Absences for reasons such as the following may not be justified:
• shopping
• sleeping in
• minding younger siblings
• minor family events such as birthdays
• hair cuts.

Schools, in partnership with parents, are responsible for promoting the regular attendance of students.

SRA NEWS

Congratulations to Shelby Mathieson - our first student to reach Level 5. Well done, Shelby!

Level 4:
Liam Wilson Melinda Billing

Level 3:
Zoe Thompson Liam Sandry
Ray-Lynn Davison Toni-Leigh Madgwick
Shaani Proctor Will Pankhurst
Melinda Billing

Level 2:
Will Pankhurst Shaani Proctor
Chloe Bunter Rebecca Koch
Alana Hammond Joshua Byrne
Liam Sandry Laura Zell
Brooke Harland Tiffany Barwick
Abby Ryan Kiarra Westwood
Brianna Edwards Alex Sutherland
Brock Wilkins Lillian Green

Level 1:
Georgia Wieland Reshea Walker
Tony Davison Alana Hammond
Liam Sandry Laura Zell
Tiffany Barwick Hannah Brereton
Abby Ryan Jack Cooper
Kane Marchant Adam Lummis
Brock Wilkins Reagan Chatfield
Chloe Perejuan Melinda Billing

Dates to remember
Tuesday 26 March - SRA Easter Sweet Stall
Thursday 28 March - Easter Pick a Prize and Roll Call Attendance Prize
Tuesday 2 April - Shopping Day

Reminder – School Times
School starts at 8.55am

Attendance Rate
As at 15/3/13
90.3%

We’re on the Web! Find us at www.gilgandra-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
AN EVENING BY THE RIVER
The parents and friends of Gilgandra High School are invited to an Evening by the River for Gilgandra District Education Foundation Inc.

It will be held on Saturday 17 April 2013 at 6.30pm at the Gilgandra Art Gallery Cooee Heritage Centre. The cost is $25.00 per person. Dress is smart. There will be guest speakers, auctions and raffles.

Tickets are available at the Gilgandra Pharmacy. Complimentary refreshments on arrival. Drinks will be available for purchase. Canapés will be supplied by Gilgandra High School Hospitality classes.

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING CHALLENGE
On Thursday 7 March, 31 students from Years 9 and 10 participated in the University of Newcastle’s Science and Engineering Challenge in Dubbo. The day featured events in which students used their knowledge and understanding of science to complete activities such as building a catapult, a lightweight bridge that can carry heavy loads, engineering electrical power lines for cities and towns and building an eco-friendly model house.

At the lunch break, GHS was placed sixth. We then moved up a few places and towards the end of the day we were coming first. This led to a very exciting finish as the last points would only be revealed at the end of the bridge test. Gilgandra finished fourth on 946 points.

The day was successful with all the students developing problem solving skills in the areas of science and engineering and having a great day.

Special mention must go to Rachael Knowles, Alice Zell, Melony Chapman and Whitney Morris who won their full day activity, making an eco-friendly model house and also to Zach Mills, Daniel Foran, Jack Ramon and Nathan Harland who had the objective of making a model cart which was propelled by a balloon. Their model cart was able to travel 5 metres with one balloon. This made the boys hard to beat and were eventually the winners of their activity.

A matter of extreme importance
It is of critical importance that aerosol cans are not brought to school. This is because we have people on site who have severe life-threatening reactions to aerosol sprays. Students have been advised of this policy. Ongoing failure to comply with it may result in suspension.

P&C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
A well-attended AGM was held on Monday 18 March, with all executive positions being filled.

The new office bearers for 2013 are as follows:

President: Glenn Coxsedge
Vice President: Michelle Mathieson
Secretary: Amber Bunter
Treasurer: Maureen Knowles

Under the arm of the P&C, the Canteen Executive was also elected. They are:

President: Paul Alchin
Treasurer: Kerry Frecklington

The P&C are looking forward to a challenging year with school funding changes being discussed. Our financial situation is strong, thanks to the great support of our canteen - our major funding source.

As always we are happy to discuss any issues that might be troubling parents, community members, students or teachers. We encourage you to contact any of the executive to bring those issues forward.

I am contactable during the day on 6847 2411 or drop in and see me at GK & LH Rohr. I look forward to meeting you and working towards a better school.

Glenn Coxsedge, P&C President

Maths for Parents Course
We will be conducting the Maths for Parents Course commencing in Week 2 of Term 2. We would like to hear from parents who might be interested in doing this course.

Please ‘phone Steve Schier on 6847 2276

Year 7 enjoying a Peer Support session

We’re on the Web! Find us at www.gilgandra-h.schools.nsw.edu.au
### March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 11 Outdoor Rec. Course</td>
<td>Fri 22 to Sun 31</td>
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<tr>
<td>School Council Meeting</td>
<td>Mon 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>PBL Easter Sweet Stall Junior Parent Teacher Mtg</td>
<td>Tue 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
<td>Fri 29</td>
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### April

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EASTER MONDAY</td>
<td>Mon 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 11 Aspire visit UNSW</td>
<td>Tue 2 - Fri 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>State Swimming</td>
<td>Thu 4 to Sat 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Year 12 Half Yearlies start</td>
<td>Fri 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>CAFS Excursion to Nelson Bay</td>
<td>Mon 8 to Wed 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Last day of term</td>
<td>Fri 12</td>
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### Mar

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brady Meyers Kerry Frecklington</td>
<td>Mon 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brady Meyers Kerry Frecklington</td>
<td>Tue 26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerry Frecklington Leanne Lummis</td>
<td>Wed 27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerry Frecklington Pat Lummis</td>
<td>Thu 28</td>
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<tr>
<td>GOOD FRIDAY</td>
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### Apr

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EASTER MONDAY</td>
<td>Mon 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brady Meyers Kerry Frecklington</td>
<td>Tue 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kerry Frecklington Melissa Ryan</td>
<td>Wed 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerry Frecklington Volunteer required</td>
<td>Thu 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jenny Bradley Michelle Mathieson</td>
<td>Fri 5</td>
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### ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE Term 1 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Due</th>
<th>Year 7</th>
<th>Year 8</th>
<th>Year 9</th>
<th>Year 10</th>
<th>Year 11</th>
<th>Year 12</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 9</td>
<td>25/3 to 29/3</td>
<td>Science ASG Maths ASG</td>
<td>Maths ASG</td>
<td>Science SRP Commerce ASG</td>
<td>Science SRP</td>
<td>Ancient Hist AST Music AST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 10</td>
<td>1/4 to 5/4</td>
<td>Science ICT English Maths ICT</td>
<td>Science SAT English Maths ICT</td>
<td>Science ICT English Drama Maths ICT</td>
<td>English Drama Maths ICT</td>
<td>CAFS AST D&amp;T AST Stand Eng AST Eng Studies AST</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 11</td>
<td>8/4 to 12/4</td>
<td>Science SAT</td>
<td>Science SRP</td>
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<td>HALF YEARLY EXAMS</td>
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