



NSW Department of Education and Training

**GLOUCESTER HIGH SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER**

Congratulations Luke

Luke Takes Top Prizes

Year 11 student, Luke Grey, recently topped the State in the Daily Telegraph Spelling Bee's Weekly Hotshotz Competition for Years 8-12.

Luke is one of a growing list of Gloucester High students enrolled in the online competition. Students race the clock to type in the correct spelling of ten words. They are awarded points based on both speed and accuracy.

Luke's prize pack included a Collins Dictionary, shirt, hat, honey packs and more.

Gloucester High School will nominate students to enter the Daily Telegraph Spelling Bee Championships during August and September, 2011. Prizes include Apple Ipads.

It is not too late to enter. Please see Mrs Hogan if you would like to compete in this challenge and prove, like Luke, that you too can be a terrific speller.

Congratulations, Luke.



PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



Welcome back one and all to Term 3. I trust the holidays treated you well. The term has started positively, with sessions at our School Development Day including *Strategic Planning 2012 – 2014*; *Peer Partnerships*; Review of *Stage 6 curriculum*; preparing for the *Computing Skills Assessment*; and *Reflections on Learning*. Opportunities such as these are critical in the school's ongoing development and the professional learning of staff.

On Friday 22 July, Gloucester High School hosted the Bucketts Way Community of Schools *eLearning Expo*. The Expo was the culmination of 5 weeks of online learning, coordinated by Alison Wise from Barrington Public School and Peter Johnson from Mt George Public School. Students from our community of schools participated in ongoing project work involving either creative arts or information technology, and presented their work to parents, teachers and other students on Friday. The quality of the project work, and the learning associated with it, were exceptional. Mr Ian Northam, Lower North Coast School Education Director, commented that the quality of programs offered by small communities is sometimes underestimated. He stressed that what he saw at the *eLearning Expo* was as good as, if not better than, programs on offer from larger schools. He also made the point that the sense of community was clearly evident – something you don't always get in a larger school setting. Well done to Alison and Peter for their organisation and hard work. We look forward to the next BWCoS event, *Bucketts of Brains*, to be held at the Gloucester Recreation Centre on Thursday 4 August and involving over 600 students! This will be the "main event" for Education Week (beginning 1st August). There will also be an Education Week Awards Celebration at Gloucester High School on Wednesday 3rd August, beginning at 7:00 pm.

This week Year 10 students will receive their subject selection booklets for 2012-13. This is one of those critical times in student decision making. We have stressed to all Year 10 students that the decisions about what subjects they choose for the next two years should be primarily based on those subjects they **enjoy doing** and those that they are **good at**. Decisions that are based on what friends are doing are usually the wrong ones! Students will be interviewed by senior staff over the coming days to ensure patterns of study and subject choices are appropriate for each student. A parent information evening will be held on Thursday 18th August in the school library to further clarify the decision making process.

Year 9 and Year 11 have returned from their respective excursions to Sydney (and wasn't it wet?!) and Jindabyne. All reports indicate that students had a great time and that their behaviour and attitude were of the highest standard (as we expect from Gloucester High students!) I would like to thank Mrs Moar, Mr Leighton, Mrs Ingram and Mr Garland for their hard work in ensuring these trips were of a high quality. Well done!

Cheers!

Pat Cavanagh

NAIDOC Celebrations

Students at Gloucester High School Celebrated NAIDOC week initially with a Flag Raising Ceremony in the school car park, involving the entire school. At the ceremony a cake was cut to Celebrate the day.

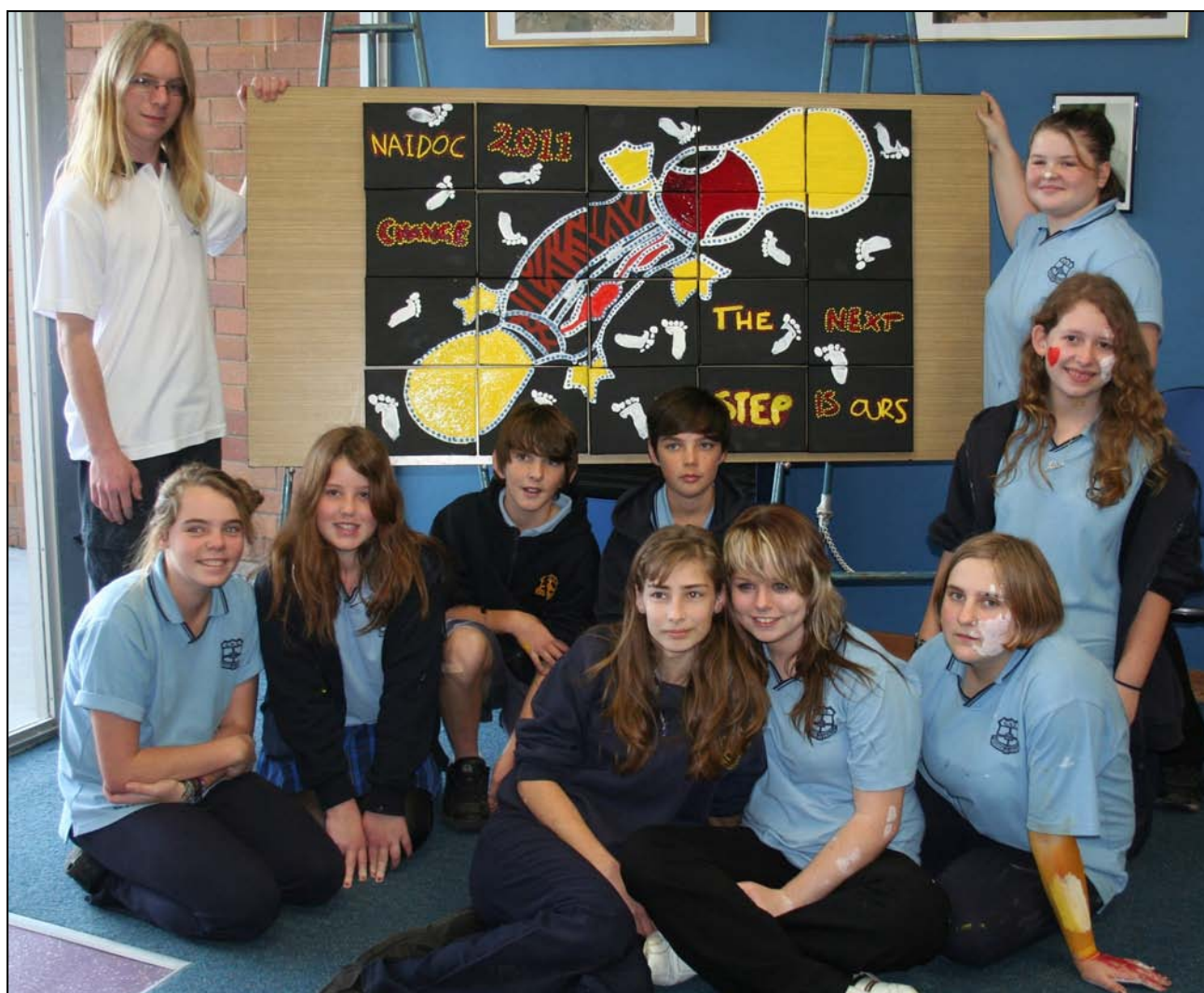
Ken Eveleigh performed "Welcome to Country". An explanation of the history NAIDOC week and of the theme for NAIDOC 2011 was presented by Jeremy Kelly, Mitch O'Mara, Star Taylor and Sarah Everett.

At recess, the cake and wattle seed muffins were shared by students. A group of students created a mural depicting the theme of the week "Change, the next step in ours". This mural now sits proudly in the foyer of the school office. Thanks to artist in residence Kyia Eveleigh and Mr Steele for their efforts.

On Thursday 30 June, twelve students attended Gloucester Primary School

NAIDOC week celebrations and assisted small groups of primary students through a series of activities.

One of these activities was a demonstration and explanation of the playing of the didgeridoo. Dylan Wells and Kyia Eveleigh were fantastic instructors in this activity.



Duke of Edinburgh Gold Practice Expedition

The Great North Walk



While all sensible kiddies were still sound asleep on the first day of their July holidays, a bleary eyed group of excited little explorers were assembling at the high school in the frosty, streetlight-lit Gloucester morning. As the clocks clicked over to 6:03am Mr Costa appeared from the gloom to join the eager band, who promptly boarded their parent-driven chariots and headed south for the starting point of their journey, on the banks of the Hawkesbury River. A couple of short stops allowed the sleepy travellers to replenish their nutrient levels, as well as to collect two members of the party who, despite being from Stroud, were allowed to join the group.

Arriving at Brooklyn (the riverside hamlet on the Hawkesbury, not the New York suburb) packs were loaded onto backs, final photos taken, weeping parents and families farewelled and the team consisting of Luke, Ellen, Hannah, Matt, Beau, Alex, Rick, Bob & Mr Costa headed stoically into the wild sandstone gorges of the Hawkesbury region.

The next five days saw our merry little band of adventurers traipsing their way along the southern reaches of the Great North Walk – venturing deep into thickly forested valleys, scaling the rocky peaks of tall mountains, fording raging (in a placidly stagnant kind of way) bits of water and meeting random forest roosters, all whilst consuming a diet and following a bathing regime which may have partially accounted for the lack of fellow trekkers encountered on the track.

Along the way our numbers increased by one when Beau discovered Joanne. Hidden deep within the seemingly impenetrable ridge-top heath, she immediately found a special place in his heart and was to be his constant companion for the remainder of the trip (okay so Joanne was in fact a rusty old scooter).

Five days and 83km after starting out the party emerged from the wilderness into the exclusive harbourside suburb of Hunters Hill, where overpriced milkshakes were consumed and much merriment had as the ferry was boarded and the glistening waters of Sydney Harbour crossed without the need to use leg power.

Arrival in Sydney saw all students attempting to outdo each other in their efforts to restore their diminished energy levels, when the Pitt Street Mall experienced an onslaught which is likely to go down in Food Court folklore as the stinky, excited kids from the bush made short work of much of the food supply in this huge shrine to all that is excessive in modern eating venues. While this was happening Luke was busy trying on some snappy ties.

With full tummies, tired legs and exhausted vocal chords all slept soundly that night and were well rested when greeted by happy families at Gloucester train station the following day....

THE END.



The Whole Group at the start of the trip.



Around the campfire on the first night.

LOVE BITES

During the last week of Term 2, students from Year 10 participated in the Love Bites program as part of the Wellbeing curriculum.

The Love Bites program consists of two interactive workshops on Domestic and Family Violence and Sexual Assault. Then in the afternoon two workshops that consolidate the information from the morning sessions with interagency facilitators working alongside the students to write and record radio advertisements or songs and develop posters around the prevention of Violence Against Women for their community.

We were fortunate to have Andrew Harvey (Child and Family counsellor), Susan Rodger (Community Health Liaison nurse), Shannon Anima (SA and DV counsellor), Beth Cuthbertson (Youth Connect), Laura Rigby (New England Health), Louise Blanchard (SA counsellor), Greg Wilcox (Adolescent psychologist), Sheryl Tester (youth worker) as facilitators.

I would like to thank Rotary for their support in funding and cooking the barbecue for the students and presenters.

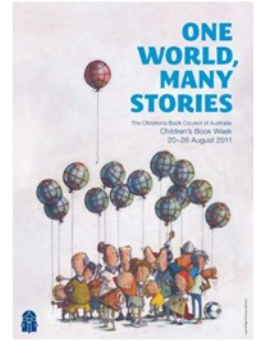
Trudi Edman

(Head Teacher Wellbeing)





Gloucester High School Library 2011



Book Week Poster Competition Years 7 - 12

**Design an A-4 poster to promote
the 2011 Book Week theme**

"One World, Many Stories"

**You could win
great prizes & everlasting fame
Your art teachers will help!**

Closing date for entries is Friday 19th August

Three sections:

- 1) Years 7-8**
- 2) Years 9-10**
- 3) Years 11-12**

**The winner of each section will receive a voucher
to spend at *Gloucester Book Shop***

Year 11 Jindabyne Excursion

A sneak peak at the Year 11 Jindabyne Excursion. More details next newsletter!



SCHOOL CALENDAR

TERM 3

Wednesday	27 July	Regional Athletics Carnival 2 days - Glendale
Monday	01 August	Education Week Commences
Monday	01 August	Year 11 VET Work Placement all week
Wednesday	03 August	Bulahdelah Gala Day
Thursday	04 August	P & C Meeting
Wednesday	10 August	CSIRO - Science Education Presentation
Monday	15 August	Trial HSC begins
Thursday	18 August	Dungog Horse Sports
Thursday	22 September	Year 12 Formal Assembly
Friday	24 September	Last Day Term 3



CANTEEN ROSTER

TERM 3

Wednesday	27 July	Kerrie C
Thursday	28 July	Kristy H
Friday	29 July	Elona
Monday	1 August	Elona and Nicky
Tuesday	2 August	Kristy
Wednesday	3 August	Paula
Thursday	4 August	Val R
Friday	5 August	Elona
Monday	8 August	Elona
Tuesday	9 August	Julie W
Wednesday	10 August	Jennies S
Thursday	11 August	Alison
Friday	12 August	Elona



PLEASE DRIVE SAFELY IN THE SCHOOL ZONE

CAREERS NEWS

University Admission Booklets have been issued to Year 12 Students. Applications of courses, Scholarships, Accommodation and Early Entry are all on-line entries. Students need UAC PIN and Student number to apply. Applications open in early August and must be completed by 30 September 2011. Application cost is \$26. Late fees apply if you miss the deadline.

Early entry for Southern Cross, Wollongong and The International College of Management are open for application NOW. Information regarding SCU and ICM early entry and scholarships is available from me.

Scholarships from Bluescope Steel. Applications are now open at www.bluescopesteel.com/cadets and application information.

Commerce/ Accounting scholarships at Cutcher and Neale Accountants available. See me for details and application information.

Leighton Mining Apprentice Intake for Diesel Mechanics now open. See me for Application information or go to www.leightoncontractors.com.au

Careers Booklets on Science, Engineering and Technology are available in the Senior Study for student to take home.

Apprenticeships for Electrical Careers with Transgrid now open – Information and application details are at www.transgrid.com.au

Charles Sturt University will be visiting the school on 09 August to speak to Year 12.

TAFE talks will also be held later in August for Prospective Students for 2012.

University Open Days occur throughout August and September. Booklet available in Senior Study for exact date and times. Newcastle Uni – 27 August; Central Coast 20 August 2011.

Hospitality Study Scholarships for 2012 at www.htn.com.au

Updated information is being added to University Boxes in the Senior Study for Year 12 students.

Greg Green
Careers Advisor

UNE Team prepares for State-Wide Series of School Visits

Schools Liaison Officers from the University of New England are preparing to travel to secondary schools around the State to give Year 12 students information about living and learning at UNE.

They will be offering schools – from Mullumbimby to Bulahdelah to Condobolin – the opportunity to receive a personal visit at a time when Year 12 students are not only knuckling down to study, but also considering their options for the future. “This is where visits from universities such as UNE can be really useful,” said Brian See, Schools Liaison Officer for the Northern NSW region.

The UNE representatives will go through the details of applying, and talk about the social and sporting aspects of university life. They’ll go through costs, accommodation options, foreign exchange opportunities, and support services.

“We think it’s really important that students start to think about their back-up options as well,” said Kim Burton, Schools Liaison Officer for the NSW North Coast region. “Early Entry is a great back-up option for many students. If, for example, they would like to study medicine, they can apply through Early Entry to courses such as biomedical science or nursing as a back-up. That way, they can still go into an area they would love and perhaps apply for medicine again down the track.”

Early Entry booklets will be posted to schools in the coming weeks. Application forms can also be downloaded from the UNE Web site at <http://www.une.edu.au/for/future-students/sl/ocug/degree/early.php>.

“I got into my Bachelor of Languages degree program through Early Entry,” said Ruth Bartlett-Taylor, Schools Liaison Officer for the NSW Central West region. “It was great to find out in early December that my place at UNE was guaranteed. I started planning my big move into college and got to relax for the rest of the summer!”

“This is a good time of year for Careers Advisers to encourage students in both Year 11 and Year 12 to book campus tours over the coming months,” Mrs Bartlett-Taylor said. “UNE offers tours throughout the year, and runs daily tours over the summer. Students and their friends and family will see the colleges, academic facilities, SportUNE, the library, and the various support services offered by UNE.”

Campus tours can be booked through the UNE Web site (<http://www.une.edu.au>) or by ringing 1800 818 865. Video-conferencing with University representatives – including current students – is available for students at schools unable to host a visit from the Schools Liaison Officers.

Get Your Act Together for the “BIG NIGHT IN!”

GACCI's Youth Talent Quest – FRIDAY 19 August at the Senior Citizen's Hall, 7pm.

Each year the benchmark is raised higher and our local talent never ceases to impress! As usual, there are fantastic “cash” prizes and a variety of genres, so check them out and get your act together!

Three Sections

Years 5 & 6

Years 7, 8, 9

Years 10, 11, 12

Solo and Group Acts will be judged separately.

Genres

- * Solo Vocal *Solo Instrumental *Solo Instrumental/Vocal
- *Group Vocal *Group Instrumental *Group Vocal/Instrumental Vocal
- * Licorice Allsorts (comedy, circus, recital etc)

Entry forms are available from your school, or Gloucester Visitors Information Centre. Forms need to be returned to GHS Office or the Visitor Information Centre by 18 August 2011.

\$5 per entry per item. Contestants can only enter once in each genre and need to live in the 2422 Post Code area or attend a 2422 Post Code School.

For More Information.....Contact Debbie Howland 65584142



SCHOLASTIC - Book Club

Pick up your Book Club Catalogue Order Issue 5 from the **LIBRARY**.

Orders for this issue need to be returned and paid for at the
Front Office by 4 August 2011



The Great Australian Rock Musical

a production of GHS 2011

Get your copy of The Great Australian Rock Musical DVD

Orders are now being taken at the School Office

\$10 each.

Little Athletics for Family, Fun and Fitness

Little athletics season will commence on Tuesday the 19th of July at 3.45pm. Children are encouraged to come and register on Tuesday afternoon at the Athletics oval, located next to the Rec Centre. A second registration day will be held on Tuesday the 26th.

Our club offers new families a two-week trial period to see if your child/children will enjoy our competition before registering for the 2010-2011 season.

For more information on registrations contact Lyndell Wamsley on 6558 1738

Medicare Teen Dental Plan

To help keep your teenager's teeth in top shape, the Australian Government provides eligible teenagers with a voucher, valued up to \$159.85, to help with the cost of a preventative dental check.

To be eligible your child must be entitled to Medicare benefits, be receiving certain government payments individually or as part of a family, and be aged 12–17 years, for at least part of the calendar year.

If your child is in equal shared-care arrangements, the first family to claim the service with Medicare Australia will be entitled to the full benefit. The voucher expires on 31 December 2011. For more information or eligibility visit your local Medicare office, call 13 2011 or go to www.medicareaustralia.gov.au

LOST PROPERTY

With the onset of the cold weather, we have a number of jumpers in lost property.

If you are missing a jumper, please ask at the school office.

Please also ensure that your **child's name** is marked on the jumper. Thank you.



REMINDER

If requiring headphones for computer use, please bring them from home. At lunchtime personal headphones must be used when playing computer games.

Mental Health Presentation

Let's talk about it

Wed 17th August 11am - 12noon

Deliberate Self-Harm

**Why do people self-harm?
What can we do to help?**

Presented by: Lois Ross

Lois is a Clinical Nurse Specialist who is working with the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service at Taree Community Health Centre.

Venue: Hallidays Point Library
Shop 1 Village Centre, Hallidays Point.

Bookings essential see Library Staff or ph: 6559 3066

This program is part of a series planned in partnership between Manning Mental Health and Greater Taree City Libraries



Health
Hunter New England
Local Health Network

Dear Parents,

I'm writing to ask for your help. Our School is taking part in Woolworths Earn & Learn community program. This year, they are giving away more than \$5 million worth of educational resources for Primary and Secondary Schools all over Australia, including ours!

From 18 July to 18 September 2011, Woolworths will give you one Earn and Learn point for every \$10 you spend in store (excluding the purchase of cigarettes, alcohol and gift cards). Points will automatically appear on your shopping dockets. All you need to do is save those dockets and bring them to school (Woolies have given us a special collection box). You will be able to track our progress on our points barometer posted at school or online at woolworths.com.au/earnandlearn

At the end of the 9 week program, we can redeem our collection of points against a choice of more than 1,000 educational resources. The list is extensive and includes library books, classroom equipment, art & craft materials and much, much more...

There's no limit to the number of points we can collect, so your participation will really make a difference. The more points we earn, the more resources we can order!

Regards,



**Help Woolies to help our school.
Start collecting Woolworths
Earn & Learn Points today!**

SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT

Gloucester High School aims to develop a supportive learning environment that engages all students, teachers and community in the pursuit of excellence.



**Education
& Training**
North Coast

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