

## School Calendar 2014 -TERM 4

### Monday 3 November

Safe Party Talks

### Friday 7 November

HSC Finishes

Year 12 Formal

### Monday 10 November

Gloucester Horse Sports

### Tuesday 11 November

Remembrance Day Ceremony

### Thursday 13 November

Vaccination Day- All Year 7 and Year 9 Boys

### Monday 17 November

Bell Shakespeare Company Tutorial

### Wednesday 19 November

Try a Trade Day - Year 9

### Friday 21 November

National Young Leaders Day

### Wednesday 26 November

Peer Support Training Year 10

### Thursday 27 November

P&C Meeting

### Monday 1 December

Save a Mate - Year 10

### Tuesday 2 December to Friday 5 December

Multicultural Week

### Wednesday 3 December

Orientation Day - Year 7

### Monday 8 December

Presentation Night

### Thursday 11 December to Saturday 13

Year 10 Drama Production

### Thursday 18 and Friday 19 December

School Development Days

## CANTEEN - Phone 65589963

### Monday 3 November

Elona

### Tuesday 4 November

Jen Scarborough

### Wednesday 5 November

Sandy

### Thursday 6 November

Christina Battams

### Friday 7 November

Elona

### Monday 10 November

Elona

### Tuesday 11 November

Maryanne

### Wednesday 12 November

Jennie

### Thursday 13 November

Elona

### Friday 14 November

Rachel Blanch

31 October 2014



## IN THE PROCESS OF BECOMING A SUSTAINABLE SCHOOL

Gloucester High School is in the process of becoming a Sustainable School with the objectives of:

- Establishing a school food resource
- Reducing waste and therefore reducing costs
- Providing cross curricular learning in sustainability in line with the National Curriculum
- Establishing school community partnerships
- Enhancing student skills set to widen career opportunities

Following the guidelines of the Reuse Recycle principle we are asking for donations of materials that could be used in this project.

If you have any of the following items that you could donate and deliver to the school to support this project, this would be very much appreciated.

Items include:

animal manure, sheets of iron in reasonable condition, ag pipe, bird netting , chicken wire, wooden pallets, steel (star) posts, seed raising mixture, gardening tools, mulch and compost bins.

Please contact us to discuss delivery time and any other issues. Donations of time and/or money are also gratefully accepted.

Mrs Doust and Ms Pickett



## Care Achievement Respect Effort Responsibility

129 Ravenshaw Street, Gloucester NSW 2422 / P 02 6558 1605 / F 02 6558 1229  
www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au / gloucester-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au

# PRINCIPAL'S REPORT



The term is certainly moving quickly and I suppose the most pressing matters at the moment are the upcoming Examination Period for junior students, and the beginning of HSC courses for our Year 12 students.

Examination timetables have been constructed (thanks to Mr Cameron for his work here) and should be out to students in the very near future. These will also be published on the school's website. In the lead up to these exams, students are reminded that it will take some considerable organisation and hard work to prepare for these, and to give yourselves the best opportunity for success.

Some things that you can easily do:

- Talk to your teachers about exactly what is in the Exam, and what format the Exam will take (multiple choice, short answer, essay, etc)
- Get your exercise book or computerised notes and use the "read, cover, check" method to study your work
- Study by doing, rather than seeing (write, calculate, rearrange – not just read through notes)
- Try to teach your work to someone else (your parents will love it when you try to teach them Maths!)
- Get your parents to test you with facts that you have prepared
- Give yourself enough lead-up time – don't leave everything until the last minute!

Good luck with your exams, but, to paraphrase Thomas Jefferson, "The harder I work, the better luck I have".

To our new Year 12 students, I welcome you to the final year of your Secondary Education, and I wish you all the best. The coming year will be successful for you if you take on board a couple of simple things:

- Work in partnership with your teachers – they are there to help!
- Take responsibility for your own learning – No excuses!
- Get organised – know where everything is, have a plan, stick to it!
- Be prepared to work harder than you want to – it may not be comfortable, but it will be rewarding
- Try to continue the upward trend in your own OPAL scores – this is a great reflection of your effort
- And remember, that successful HSC students are not necessarily the "brightest" students – they are almost always the hardest working!

Cheers!

Pat Cavanagh

## THE NATIONAL YOUNG LEADERS DAY

The National Young Leaders day will be held at Sydney Olympic Park Sports Centre. This excursion is targeted at Student Representative Council members as a means of developing leadership skills. The National Young Leaders day is an annual event founded in 1997 to develop strong leadership values amongst young Australians. The program consists of keynote talks, multimedia presentations and interactive learning that seeks a range of specific outcomes for young people who aspire to lead themselves and others well. We will be departing school at 5am on Friday 21 November and will return approximately 8pm. Transport will be provided by Mr Davis. The cost of the excursion is \$62 per student to be paid at the office. Also additional \$15 on the day to contribute towards petrol and parking expenses. Additional funds (no more the \$25) will be required for dinner. Students will need to bring morning tea and a packed lunch as there may not be time to access food outlets during the breaks. Students will also need to wear full school uniform. Please return your notes and money to the office by Friday 14 November. For more information please visit <http://halogen.org.au/event/sydney-secondary>

Mr Davis

# YEAR 10 DRAMA PRODUCTION

## **The Small Poppies**

by David Holman

Gloucester High School's Year 10 Drama class will be going back to kindergarten when they take to the stage in the David Holman play, *The Small Poppies*. The talented group of students will present this widely acclaimed, entertaining children's drama in the **Gloucester High School Hall on Friday 12 December and Saturday 13 December**.

*The Small Poppies* looks at the experiences of a group of children, parents, and teachers facing the challenge of the first day at school in urban Australia. While the play includes lots of comic situations, engaging games and cheeky gags, it also attempts to incorporate some serious and more 'adult' themes about racial intolerance and Australia's emigration laws which echo the schoolroom concerns of bullying and exclusion faced by some of the characters. While it is primarily a show for children, anyone with small children or who remembers those troublesome times will find something to empathise with here.

The story is mainly focused on the troubles of five year old Clint (played by Erika Hughes), initially eager to be off to school for the first time but then challenged not only by losing his best friend Maria (Maddie Eveleigh/Tia Dougherty), who moves house, but also, when he gets there, by the class bully, Shane (Sandi Thompson/Karla Tollis). Meanwhile a Cambodian refugee, Lep (Lily Nixon) comes to Australia following the death of her mother and faces not only the standard challenges of 'big school', but language, race, and cultural barriers which prevent her classmates and teacher (Kimberley Mitchell) from understanding her.

First written in 1986, *The Small Poppies* is still a universal story in which the themes and characters are largely timeless. It is a very energetic show with a colourful set designed to reflect the bright, broad spaces of the children's world (and the dark ones in Cambodia). The school hall will be liberally decorated with children's drawings and the paraphernalia of the classroom, and the stage will accommodate the various running, dancing, jumping, and tumbling embarked upon by the cast in the course of events.

Children will be able to enjoy the simpler pleasures of watching the 'children' perform bad jokes and play out the everyday dramas of the classroom, and they will probably find the exaggerated mannerisms of the adults entirely recognisable and equally funny. Adults should also find the characters of the children reasonably accurate, based as they are upon long observation of real children by the author.

*The Small Poppies* is an immensely enjoyable entertainment which will have you laughing out loud with recognition and empathy more than once. Come along and re-live your first day at school. For poor little Clint, it won't be easy!

## **Starring**

Tia Dougherty, Jordan Dunn, Dakota Ellis, Maddie Eveleigh, Rashelle Franks, Molly Hutchen, Kimberley Mitchell, Lily Nixon, Natalie Schneider, Patrick Skelton, Isabel Snowdon, Sandi Thompson, Karla Tollis, Starr Welch, Josh Wilson

**GLOUCESTER HIGH SCHOOL HALL**

**Friday 12 December at 7:00pm**

**Saturday 13 December at 2:30pm & 7:00pm**

**Tickets: Adults \$6.00, Concession \$4.00 at the door (Suitable for the whole family!)**

## PURCHASING A NOTEBOOK

As you know the DER Laptop program for students has been discontinued. This means that Year 9 students will not be provided with a laptop in 2015. Many High Schools have embarked on a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), in which families purchase devices for their children to use at school and at home. Recent meetings with staff, students and parents have all led to the acknowledgement that, if purchases are made by parents, that the school needs to provide some guidelines surrounding the type and capacity of device that we think will meet student educational needs and can cope with the wireless and software demands that exist. Year 9 students will need a device. Parents may also choose to purchase devices for students in Years 7 and 8. While the school encourages this, we realise that the expense may be prohibitive and, therefore, won't be making this compulsory. Mrs Chris Moulds has compiled a specifications list, so that parents are well-informed when purchasing a device. <http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/parents/purchasing-a-notebook>

## AUSTRALIAN MATHEMATICS COMPETITION

Students from all years successfully competed in the ICAS and the Australian Mathematics competitions. Both these competitions involved the best Mathematics students in Australia. All students who entered the competition's should be proud of their result and are congratulated by the Principal and Mathematics staff. Great effort! Well Done.

Mr Dowle



## LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR QUEST

Students between the ages of 15 and 19 are welcome to enter the Lions Youth of the Year Quest, designed to encourage, foster and develop leadership in young people. Interested students will need to demonstrate citizenship qualities and prepare a speech of five minutes duration. There is an opportunity to win significant prizes. For further information, see Mr Davis or visit <http://lionsclubs.org.au/activities/youth/yoty/>

## YEARLY EXAMINATION DATES

Yearly examinations for Years 7 to Year 10 will take place in Week 6 and Week 7. All students have been issued with their examination timetables. The examination timetables are also on our school website. <http://www.gloucester-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/years>

**PLEASE NOTE:** All English, Geography and History students have been given notification of what to study for the exam and the exam requirements. Please check this with your children or don't hesitate to contact us on 65581605.

Mr Leighton

## PRIMARY TO HIGH SCHOOL - DATES TO REMEMBER

Gloucester High Year 6-7 Transition Program

Week 5 – Wednesday 5 November 1.30-3.15pm PtoH continues

Week 7 – Wednesday 19 November 1.30-3.15pm PtoH continues

Week 9 – Wednesday 3 December 9-1.30pm Peer Support Program

Week 9 – Wednesday 3 December 1.30-3.15pm PtoH concludes



## PtoH Program Update

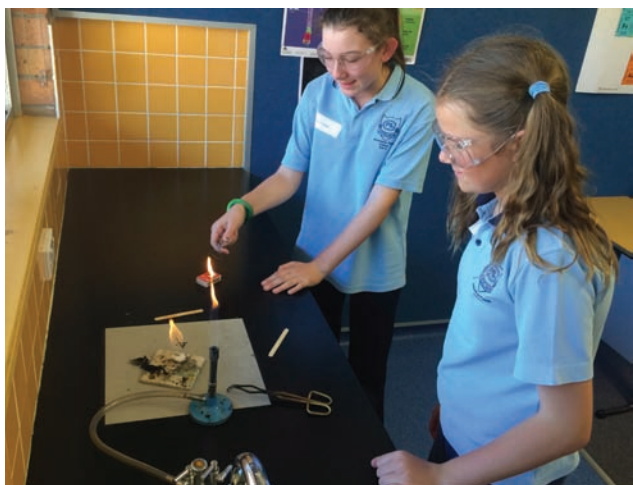
Students from across our primary schools have attended Gloucester High School for the first of their four visits where students attended a variety of classes to gain insight and experience into being a high school student.

The three classes on offer are Food, Science Investigations and Language/Library. Students attended from 1.30-3.15pm. Each rotation students will attend a different class. The next session of PtoH is on Wednesday 5 November, followed by Wednesday 19 November. All students then will attend a full day Orientation on Wednesday 3 December. This day will incorporate our peer support leaders and other welfare programs.

So far the word from the students has been positive and they all seem very happy and confident in the high school setting. Special thanks must go to our Year 10 volunteers who supported the Year 6 students in their activities.

Gloucester High School looks forward to our next visit from the primary schools and hope they are looking forward to their experience.

Mik Wisely  
Transition Coordinator



# CAREERS NEWS

## Current Year 11 / 12

Students will be permitted to withdraw from a non-mandatory course as of Monday 27 November (Monday Week 4). Year 12 students are required to complete ten units compared with twelve units in Year 11. Remember, once a student withdraws from a course they will not be permitted to enrol again. I encourage all students who are withdrawing from a course to have constructive dialogue with their teachers, parents and other students prior to doing so. The major consequence, particularly for students seeking an ATAR, is there will be no options to fall back on if they unexpectedly fail to achieve good results in a particular course. Subject Variation Forms can be collected from Mr De Angelis in the Careers Office.

**YEAR 11 / 12** All year 12 (11) students will have a one on one meeting in the careers office during Week 4 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday). This meeting is a part of the School to Work Program. We will discuss Course Variations, Individual skills, and options and back-up options when leaving school next year. The meeting timetable is posted outside of the Careers Office and other places in the school. It is your responsibility to get to your scheduled meeting in a timely manner. Please see me if you are unable to attend so we can re-schedule.

## Year 12 Graduates

Those students who are university bound will need to ensure that their School Recommendation Scheme (SRS) choice is first preference by Tuesday 2 December. Offers will be released on Thursday 4 December. After this round it's important that students go into UAC "Check and Change" and change their first preference to the university and course that they truly want. Remember, this round will be based on ATARs. Students will know their ATAR's prior to this round, so common sense and a realistic appraisal of their choices is very important. Remember, many courses and universities offer bonus points for living in a regional area, being of indigenous decent or successfully completing the Educational Access Scheme (EAS) documents. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require any assistance with your preferences.

## Apprenticeship In The Wollongong Area

Thomas & Coffey, a division of SKILLED Group, provide specialised maintenance and project delivery services to the mining, heavy industry, manufacturing and utilities sectors throughout New South Wales and Queensland. Under SKILLED Group's Indigenous Employment Services Program, Thomas & Coffey are looking to recruit Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander candidates to undertake a four year apprenticeship in the following roles: Boilermakers, Fitters, Air Conditioning Technicians, Plumbers and Carpenters.

# POLICY FOR STUDENT DRIVERS

- Students who have either a provisional or full drivers' licence are able to drive to and from school without having to provide a note from home.
- Students must be aware that they can only drive to and from school and are not permitted to use their vehicles during the school day.
- Students who transport siblings will need to return the completed form provided by Ms Keirstead to the front office.
- In the interests of driver and passenger safety, students are not allowed to transport other students in their cars, unless prior arrangements have been made with the Principal, and all Departmental requirements have been met.
- Students are not to park their vehicles (cars or motorbikes) in staff car-parks. This is a Work Health and Safety

# SPORTS NEWS

## U/15 Netball Gala Day

On Wednesday 15 October, Gloucester High School hosted the Manning Zone Netball Gala Day. Gloucester began the day with a game against Great Lakes College Forster and were beaten 31-10. Jenna Davis shot very well and Tayla Predebon had a great game in defence. Gloucester played Taree in the next game and was very competitive going down 23-19. Olivia Allardice was all over the court at centre and Jess Anniwell shooting at a high percentage. Wingham was Gloucester's next opponent and again Gloucester were very competitive but went down 17-12. In the last game of the day Gloucester was drawn to play Great Lakes College Tuncurry. In this game the girls again played very well but went down 24-12. The overall winners on the day was Great Lakes College Forster who were undefeated all day and progress to the next stage of the knockout competition.



## U/14's Cricket

Gloucester High School's Baker Shield cricket side finally got to the play Rounds 1 and 2 of the competition last Monday at Toronto. After 3 washouts in Term 1, we nervously set off for the long journey on the school bus.

Gloucester was drawn to play West Wallsend in the first match and due to unforeseen circumstances only 1 ground was available for 4 teams. This meant a reduction in game length and games were shortened to 10 overs per side. Batting first, Gloucester made 66 from its 10 overs with Harrison Clarke scoring 40 not out. In the run chase, West Wallsend proved too strong reaching the target 1 wicket down with 2 overs remaining.

Gloucester then played in a consolation game against Morriset High School. Again batting first, Gloucester scored 38 from its 10 overs. Andrew Hughes scoring 12, Connor Harvey 4 and Julian Davis not out on 6. The Gloucester bowlers were very tight but Morriset were able to reach the total with one over to spare.

## Opens Cricket

On Monday, the Open Boys cricket side travelled to Singleton to play in Round 3 of the Alan Davidson Shield. After a long trip in the bus, Captain Ryan Yates managed to win the toss and elected to bat on what looked like a good wicket.

Gloucester started promisingly scoring 9 off the 1st over but opener Coen Durbidge fell for a duck in the second over.

This brought Ryan Yates to the crease who looked very comfortable from the outset. He saw Gloucester's opener Brodie O'Brien go for 2 and the side was 2/16. Ryan continued to play some great cricket shots until he was caught in the gully for 15. Ben Reynolds and Ethan Hamilton set about steadying the innings and both played intelligent cricket. Ben eventually went for 11 but the innings was back on course. Callan Radford scored 9 before being caught. This brought Blake Steadman to the crease who along with Ethan Hamilton batted beautifully. Ethan scored 16 when he was unluckily caught. Blake continued to bat sensibly as wickets fell around him. Kenneth Wamsley came in at number 11 and scored a very valuable 29 to add to Blake's 26. Gloucester had reached 142 which was a defendable total.

Gloucester set about their bowling with both openers (Ben Reynolds and Ethan Hamilton) restricting the batsmen.

Ethan was rewarded with an early wicket and Singleton were 1/16. Brodie O'Brien came on first change and made an immediate impact taking 3 quick wickets to have Singleton 4/41. Following this an excellent piece of individual fielding from Ryan Yates saw a run out from a direct hit and Singleton were now 5/41. Singleton steadied and formed a partnership that saw them get to 84 when Kenneth Wamsley entered the attack. Bowling left arm orthodox spin, Kenneth broke the partnership with a stumping to Coen Durbidge. Kenneth took a further 2 wickets and Ethan Hamilton the last wicket to see Singleton all out for 109.

Gloucester will now play the winner of Newcastle High School and Belmont High School in the Hunter Region semi-final for a chance to reach the final.



## T20 Cricket Gala Day

Last Wednesday the 7/8 and 9/10 T20 cricket teams travelled to Taree for the rescheduled Gala day organised by Cricket NSW.

The Year 7/8 team played St Clare's in their first game and scored 89 batting first. Harrison Clarke scored 50 and Justin Berry 10. St Clare's could only manage 58 in reply with Cody Longbottom taking 2/3 and Justin Berry, Cadel Beard, Jyah Bowden all taking a wicket each.

This put the 7/8 in the final against Great Lakes College. Great Lakes batted first and posted a score of 70. Andrew Hughes and Julian Davis were the pick of the bowlers taking 1 wicket each. In reply, Gloucester started in fine style with Harrison Clarke scoring 25 and Jacob Moulds contributing 4. Andrew Hughes scored 10 and Jyah Bowden 5 but Gloucester fell just short with 58 off their overs.

The 9/10 team played Wingham High School in their first game and scored 119. Ryan Yates 36, Blake Steadman 19, Jack Davis and Ben Reynolds (both 14) doing the damage with the bat. In reply, Wingham were bowled out for 90 with Ben Reynolds and Ryan Yates both taking 2 wickets, Jye Barkwill, Ben Henley and Cormac Campbell took 1 wicket each. In their second match, Gloucester again batted first scoring 120 against St Clare's. Ryan Yates scored 41, Coen Durbidge 30 and Josh Wilson 17. St Clare's scored 55 in reply with Coen Durbidge taking 2 wickets, Jye Barkwill, Ben Reynolds and Bryce Lacey all taking a wicket each.

This secured Gloucester a spot in the final against Great Lakes College. Again batting first, Gloucester scored 72. Ryan Yates 35, Coen Durbidge 22 were the main contributors with the bat. In reply, Great Lakes were able to chase down the required runs with only a few balls to spare. Jye Barkwill was the pick of the bowlers taking 2/9 and Blake Steadman keeping it tight with figures of 1/7.

## VACCINATIONS AT SCHOOL

The last school based vaccination clinic at school will be held on:

**Thursday 13 November 2014**



It is not too late for your Year 7 son or daughter, or Year 9 son to receive missed vaccine doses offered in 2014. If you have not completed a consent form, please ask the front office for one and send it back in time for the last clinic. Any missed vaccine, even a first dose of HPV can be administered at this last clinic. HPV is an expensive vaccine, and is only funded if the course is commenced in Year 7 at school.

What happens if my child has not received a full course of three doses of HPV by the end 2014 – as long as your child starts the course of HPV while they are in Year 7 in 2014 the nurses will complete their course while they are in Year 8 in 2015. You do not need to take any further action. This will however be the last opportunity for boys in Year 9 to have a HPV vaccine dose at school. Year 9 boys who have had less than three doses of HPV vaccine after this next visit can complete the schedule at their General Practitioner practice.

Your child is given a record of vaccination for each vaccine administered; you may need to ask them for this copy.

You can contact the Hunter New England Population Health Unit on 49246477 and ask for an immunisation officer if you have any questions.



# MULTICULTURAL VISIT AT RISK OF CANCELLATION

The Gloucester High School Multicultural Festival is at risk of not occurring this year due to a lack of interest from host families to accommodate visiting students from Miller High School. At the time of writing this message, the due date for expressions of interest from students has expired and we have had very few students (only four from Years 10 & 11!) offering to support this venture. Unfortunately, the festival, which celebrates multiculturalism and promotes cultural tolerance and understanding, cannot proceed unless families are willing and able to care for the Miller students, most of whom are refugees from war torn countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

We will extend the deadline for expressions of interest to Friday November 7th in the hope that there may be some families out there who can help. As most of the visiting students are over 16 years of age, it would be preferable if hosting students were in this age range. If you think your family can help, please contact Scott Davis at the school on 6558 1605 or have your child collect an expression of interest form from Mr Davis. Please note that, due to cultural differences, some students may need to adhere to particular dietary requirements.

The Multicultural Festival is set to take place from Tuesday December 2nd to Friday December 5th. The festival will culminate in our Multicultural Day on Friday with a range of cultural food, music and events taking place in the school and will also include a Music and Drama Night on the Thursday night.



An exciting part of this event is the visit from a number of students from the Miller Intensive English Centre in South Western Sydney. These students represent a very diverse range of cultural backgrounds and provide our students with a valuable insight into the lives and backgrounds of those with different life experiences to their own.

Mr Davis  
Multicultural Festival Co-ordinator

## SRC PROFILE



**Name:** Isabel Everett

**Year Group:** Year 12

**Time as an SRC member:** Three Years

**Biggest inspiration:** Jack Johnson

**What do you enjoy about being a SRC member?** Being able to have a positive contribution to our school

**What's great about Gloucester High School?** Nice environment and encouraging teachers

**Where do you see yourself in ten years?** Hopefully happy and healthy



**Name:** Holly Haynes **Year Group:** Year 9

**Time as an SRC member:** Three Years

**Biggest inspiration:** Harry Styles and Michael Clifford

**What do you enjoy about being a SRC member?** I get to wear a groovy badge

**What's great about Gloucester High School?** It's such a cute little school and everyone knows everyone

**Where do you see yourself in ten years?** Melbourne with my spouse Michael Clifford

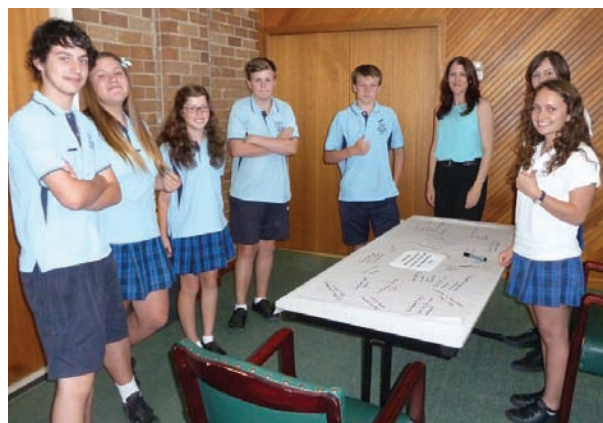
## SRC TRAINING DAY

The recently appointed Student Representative Council held a training day at Gloucester Council Chambers on Tuesday 28 October. The excursion was designed to develop leadership and teamwork skills as well as generate ideas for positive initiatives. Students began the day with a brisk walk down to the chambers before being welcomed by Mayor John Rosenbaum. They then participated in a name game 'icebreaker' prior to a very engaging address from ex-Gloucester local Fiona Walton, who now works as an intelligence analyst for the NSW Police Force. Fiona talked about her experiences in the police force as well as her time in Norway as a cultural exchange student. The key messages from Fiona were to "back yourself" and say "Yes" to new experiences.

An ideas forum led by our Senior Leaders then brought out a range of new ideas from students with a view to improving the school, addressing issues and improving SRC operations. Vice-Captain Shannon Baker then spoke knowledgeably about an issue close to her heart – climate change. After lunch, Mr Leighton paid a visit to the group and brought along with him his son Alex. Actually, Alex wasn't with him in person but he was on the phone. As an ex-GHS SRC Rep, Alex spoke to the students about his experiences on the State SRC and as an advisor on the NSW Youth Advisory Council. This provided current SRC members with an insight on what can be achieved beyond our small community.

Finally, we held the SRC Annual General Meeting, where students nominated for roles and responsibilities in the coming year. Much thanks to our speakers Mr Rosenbaum, Fiona Walton, Shannon Baker, Mr Leighton and Alex Leighton. Special thanks to Council's Sheryl Tester for her participation and for arranging the venue for this most inspiring day.

Mr Davis  
SRC Coordinator



## STUDENT ATTENDANCE

Missing school means your child misses out on vital information and maintaining learning routines. This can result in a loss of confidence and missing out on forming vital friendships.

Attendance is recorded each day. As a parent or caregiver you are responsible for ensuring your child attends school every day, including sports days unless your child:

- has an unavoidable medical or dental appointment (preferably these should be made after school or during holidays)
- is required to attend a recognised religious holiday
- is required to attend an exceptional or urgent family circumstance (such as attending a funeral)
- is sick, or has an infectious illness.

If your child has to be absent from school for any reason, including arriving late or leaving early, please either tell your child's teacher or the administration assistant at our school, or explain the reason by phone, email, or written note as soon as possible, or within seven days.



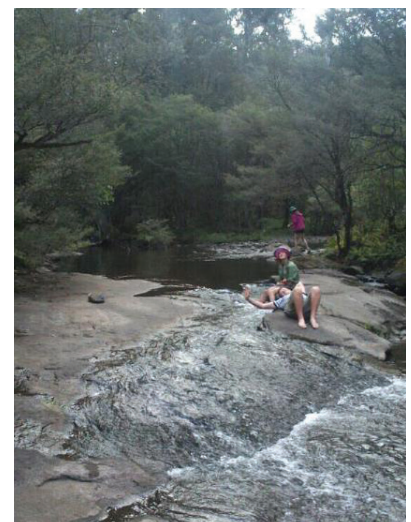
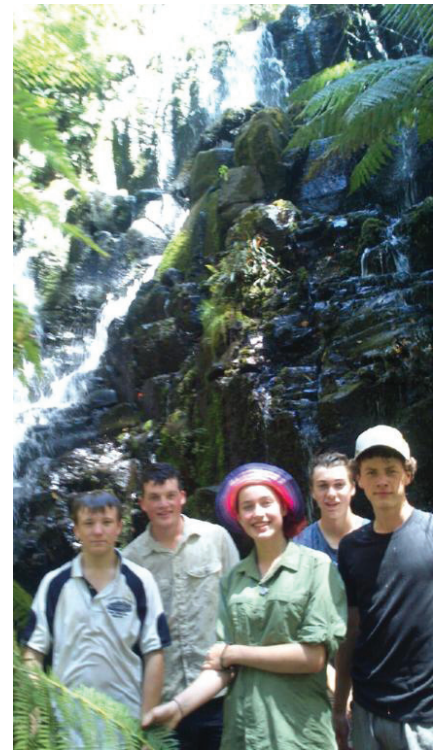
## DUKE OF ED SILVER EXPEDITION

Last weekend saw seven enthusiastic students begin what would be an epic Duke of Ed expedition spanning four different maps and covering over 50 km! Beginning at the start of the link trail, we decided to check out Munro's Hut and it wasn't long before our first injury was sustained. Lily's "log roll", fortunately, only left a few scratches and bruises and we were able to sally forth!

The map indicated a leisurely 13 km from the hut to Wombat Creek, from which an extra 3 km would see us reach our first campsite of Black Swamp. The going was slow, however, due to many tree falls across the track, some quite thick undergrowth and a relentless uphill grade that made us all doubt the accuracy of the map. "This has gotta be more than 13 ks!!" The next complication was the impending thunderstorm rolling ominously in from the west. After an anxious last few kilometres of rain, thunder and lightning, we made it to Wombat Creek, where we decided that discretion was the better part of valour and pitched camp, short of our planned destination at Black Swamp. We saw a scorpion, that was given some close attention by Ben, managed to start a fire and get fed, then it was off to bed. Big Day!

Friday morning, stiff and sore, we trudged off again, this time heading past Edwards Swamp and Mount Bromlow and eventually stopping at our Day 2 campsite at Polblue. As we needed to get Miss Tulloch back to Gloucester, our walking pace was quickened in order to meet this deadline. 17.5 kilometres for day 2! Aching legs, sore feet and blisters were all testament to the gruelling nature of the walking (we covered over 30 km within a 24 hour period!), but a relaxed "rest afternoon" was a great tonic for all. We had some great card games, even though we all needed to keep our eyes on Coen ("renege boy") whilst playing eucre! Saturday's walking was gentle by comparison, and we covered our 14 km easily and quickly. The wildlife was interesting: a red-bellied black snake and what looked like a funnelweb! A well-deserved swim in the Manning River (Campsite 3) was again followed by cards, food, conversation and, ultimately, rest. The two thunderstorms that hit us that evening were, luckily, more bluster than substance and we all collapsed into bed early in anticipation of an easy final day. The 6 km walk on Sunday to our pick-up point was surprisingly sapping, with uphill climbs and increasing temperatures. But we made it! Over 50 km! Well done to everyone. No-one gave up, and everyone displayed great spirit, teamwork and responsibility. Thanks to Deb Hogan and Sam Tulloch for their assistance, and to Mr Nixon, Mrs Doust, Mrs Moore, Mr Sharpe and Mr Radford for transport. Another successful trip!

PS. Congratulations to Wyatt Hall and Hayley Johns, who have qualified for their Silver and Bronze respectively. A reminder to all others to get their hours logged so that they too can get their gong!



Mr Cavanagh



## DEAF CAMP RECOUNT

On Tuesday 2 September, my mum dropped me off at the bus at Taree to go to Deaf Camp. This is the third time I've been to Deaf Camp. It is always awesome and at a different location each year, this year it was at Yarrahapinni.

We arrived at camp at about 1pm. We got assigned to our cabins and the teacher almost put the boys in the girls' cabin. We all thought this was very funny. There was a games room with two ping pong tables, a pool table, a soccer table and an air hockey table. We also played UNO in the cabin.

On Wednesday we had breakfast at about 8:30am. We then split into groups. I went on the flying fox which was absolutely enormous; it was so scary I thought that I was going to die. It was still fun and we all had several turns.

Next we played indoor games such as the horizontal bungee run where you are tied by a bungee cord to the back of the run and you have to run as fast as you can to place a marker at your furthest point. It was really hard and you tripped over easily. It was funny watching other people trip over but when I tripped I didn't think it was funny at all.

On Thursday we had breakfast at about 8:30am before beginning our group activities. First we went on the waterslide; it was big and cool. I went really fast and bumped into two girls that were in front of me and then two more boys came down and crashed into all of us. We all laughed because it was absolutely hilarious. It was good because the line was always really short. We only had to wait for a couple of people to go down each time, but it was a long walk back up to the top.

Another activity that I really enjoyed was the digital hunt where we had to take photos of things off a list. In pairs we walked everywhere, except out of bounds, to find the items and shoot them with the camera. Some of the things were really hard to find and we ran out of time before we found everything.

The best part about Deaf Camp was the disco on Thursday night. Everybody had a great time and we danced until 9pm. There were lots of decorations including balloons, but somebody kept popping them which was a little annoying.

On Friday we had to get up early and have breakfast between 7 and 7:30am. Then we packed our things and boarded the bus at about 9am, and we arrived back at Taree at about 12pm. Deaf Camp was over for another year.

I had a great time at Deaf Camp, and made many new friends.



Brayden Woolnough

## JUNIOR BOOK CLUB

Members recently met to share their thoughts on *Here Be Monsters*, by Alan Snow. Overall, an okay read but at least 100 pages too long! And all agreed that its film adaptation, *The Boxtrolls*, bears little resemblance to the book!



# NEW LIBRARY BOOKS



## NEW SERIES – GRAPHIC NOVELS

**HARDY BOYS THE NEW CASE FILES** by Gerry Conway

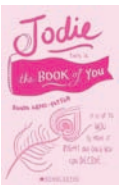
**Crawling with Zombies (#1):** Frank and Joe go undercover as the Living Dead to infiltrate a "Zombie Crawl" that has acquired a notorious reputation -- a teenager in Zombie makeup appears to "accidentally" die in the last Zombie Crawl through Bayport. Will the Undercover Brothers and Agents of A.T.A.C. discover what's really going on in Zombie land or become the next accidental victims?



**Break Up (#2):** The unthinkable has finally happened -- Frank and Joe decided to no longer work together. Will they continue as agents of A.T.A.C. (American Teens Against Crime) separately? And will Joe and Frank still be effective as solo crime fighters?



**Together with the Hardy Boys (#3):** World-famous Girl Detective Nancy Drew teams up with The Undercover Hardy Boys, to solve a mystery in Nancy's hometown of River Heights. Someone has been behind the recent troubles in both Bayport and River Heights. But how can Nancy solve the mystery when Frank and Joe refuse to work with each other?



**BOOK OF YOU** by Randa Abdel-Fattah

**Jodie (#1):** Best friends Jodie, Rania and Deyana can't believe what they have found in the school library - a mysterious book that writes itself, just for them. Jodie's life is difficult enough - her father is in a new relationship and she's trying to get used to having a step-sister. The advice the book is giving her is so confusing. Who is the ghostly writer? What does she want?



## NEW TITLES IN SERIES

**SKULDUGGERY PLEASANT** by Derek Landy

**Armageddon Outta Here (#8.5):** For the first time, every Skulduggery Pleasant short story -- plus The End of the World -- is collected into one volume. But that's not all... Written specially for this collection, there is an entirely new novella that will drag you into a nail-biting American horror story, Skulduggery-style, and three new stories spanning the last 150 years.



**The Dying of the Light (#9):** The FINAL book in the Skulduggery Pleasant series. Valkerie. Darquesse. Stephanie. The world ain't big enough for the three of them. The end will come... The War of the Sanctuaries has been won, but it was not without its casualties. Following the loss of Valkyrie Cain, Skulduggery Pleasant must use any and all means to track down and stop Darquesse before she turns the world into a charred, lifeless cinder. And so he draws together a team of soldiers, monster hunters, killers, criminals...and Valkyrie's own murderous reflection. The war may be over, but the final battle is about to begin. And not everyone gets out of here alive...



**THE LORIEN LEGACIES** by Pittacus Lore

**The Revenge of Seven (#5):** The Garde have suffered the ultimate betrayal: Number Five has allied himself with the Mogadorians, killing Eight and helping the Mogs to abduct Ella from the safe house. Now the fight for Earth's survival has just become that much more impossible. Help is at hand from the most unlikely of sources: Adam, a Mogadorian, has turned his back on his people. He might just be their lifeline, but are the Garde repeating past mistakes by putting their trust in him?



**DRAGONKEEPER** by Carole Wilkinson

**Shadow Sister (#5):** Tao is learning to be a dragonkeeper. With no one to teach him it is not easy. He must keep Kai safe but there is danger at every turn -- they are pursued by a gang of murderous nomads, tricked by unseen spirits, attacked by a giant seven-headed snake and disoriented in the realms of the dead. Most terrifying of all is the ghost who can turn blood into ice. Tao knows he must prove he is truly worthy of the name dragonkeeper. But the road west is never straight and nothing for Tao and Kai is what it seems.



TEMPERANCE BRENNAN by Kathy Reichs

**Bones of the Lost (#16):** The body of a teenage girl is discovered along a desolate highway on the outskirts of Charlotte. Inside her purse is the ID card of a local businessman who died in a fire months earlier. This is no ordinary hit-and-run. Who was the girl? And was she murdered? Dr Temperance Brennan, Forensic Anthropologist, must find the answers.



ASCENDANCE TRILOGY by Jennifer A. Nielsen

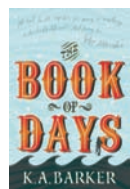
**The Shadow Throne (#3):** War has come to Carthya. It knocks at every door and window in the land. And when Jaron learns that King Vargan of Avenia has kidnapped Imogen in a plot to bring Carthya to its knees, Jaron knows it is up to him to embark on a daring rescue mission. But everything that can go wrong does.



PATRICK HEDSTROM by Camilla Lackberg

**The Drowning (#6):** Christian Thydell's dream has come true: his debut novel, *The Mermaid*, is published to rave reviews. When crime writer Erica Falck discovers that Christian has been receiving anonymous threats, she investigates not just the messages but also the author's mysterious past... Meanwhile, one of Christian's closest friends is missing. Erica's husband, Detective Patrik Hedstrom, has his worst suspicions confirmed as the mind-games aimed at Christian and those closest to him become a disturbing reality.

FICTION



THE BOOK OF DAYS by K.A. Baker

When sixteen-year-old Tuesday wakes from sleep for the first time, she opens her eyes to a world filled with wonder and peril. Left only with a letter from the person she once was, Tuesday sets out to discover her past with the help of her charming and self-serving guide, Quintalion. Along the way she runs into mercenaries, flying cities, airships, and a blind librarian. But what is her connection with the mysterious Book of Days -- a book that holds untold power...

## ESSENTIAL SECONDARY SCIENCE ASSESSMENT

The Essential Secondary Science Assessment (ESSA) test for Year 8 students, will be held for 8K and 8M on Wednesday 12 November 2014 and 8B on Thursday 13 November 2014. The test takes approximately 80 minutes. The test is an interactive, multimedia test completed entirely on a computer. It is called ESSA online.

ESSA online contains multiple choice, short response and extended response tasks that are grouped around real-world issues, including scientific investigations. This is a diagnostic test, with tasks framed on Stage 4 outcomes and essential content in the NSW Science Years 7–10 Syllabus. Students will be tested on their:

- knowledge and understanding of science
- understanding and skills in the process of scientific investigation
- ability to evaluate evidence, make judgements and think critically
- ability to access information and communicate scientific ideas.

Students also complete ESSA online on a computer, each student needs to bring headphones or earbuds that plug into a school computer. Earbuds for an ipod or portable player are suitable.

If your child has a disability that needs special consideration or has been educated in English for less than one year, please contact the school to discuss special provision or possible exemption from the test.

Results of the test will be available during Term 1, 2015. Information about each student is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that the right to privacy of all students is maintained. A personal report for each student will be sent to parents/carers to describe the science knowledge and skills demonstrated by the student in the test. There will also be information about how your child's results compare with overall performance of all students in the test. You will be invited to complete a parent survey about the test and science learning.

If you would like to be provided with more details about the ESSA program or you require additional information please contact the school on 65581605.

Mary Doust  
Head Teacher Science



# You're Leaving School and so is your Laptop

Be prepared for the exciting opportunities ahead of you with your unlocked laptop.  
1st step is take a backup (copy) of your files on the laptop.  
Get a 'Transfer of Ownership Acknowledgement and Acceptance' form, fill it out  
and hand it in with your laptop to be unlocked.

**Starts NOW!**



## Your unlocked laptop will...

- Allow you to manage your own laptop including installing software
- Provide you with unfiltered web access including access to Facebook and Twitter
- Give you access to your own copy of Microsoft Windows 7 Ultimate and Microsoft Office 2010



Education &  
Communities

# Attention Year 12



**31.10.14 @ 7.30PM**

**HALLOWEEN BLUELIGHT**  
Yrs 3 to 7

7.30pm till 9.30pm  
Gloucester Soldiers Club  
Entertainment: Mobilitic DJ's

**LUCKY DOOR PRIZES**

**NO ALCOHOL | NO DRUGS | NO PASSOUTS**

All Blue Light events are drug and alcohol free and supervised by Police Officers



[www.pcycnsw.org.au](http://www.pcycnsw.org.au)



**Maitland  
Horse Sports Day**  
Hosted by: Iona Public School



**New Date  
Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014**

**ENTRIES HAVE NOW BEEN OPENED FOR NEW RIDERS ALL EXISTING ENTRIES HAVE BEEN HELD OVER, IF YOU CAN NO LONGER COMPETE ON THIS DATE PLEASE LET US KNOW ASAP BY EMAIL TO [iona-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:iona-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)**

**ENTRIES CLOSE Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2014**  
at

Maitland Polocrosse Grounds, Anambah Rd Rutherford  
(1km off New England Highway)  
Commencing: 8.00am Gear Check by Team Manager,  
**8.30am start**

All forms available on the school website

[www.iona-p.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.iona-p.schools.nsw.edu.au)

**Entry Fee: \$20 per rider** \* (See conditions of entry)

<b>Riding Events:</b>	Riding Classes Hacking Classes Pleasure Hack	<b>Sporting Events:</b>	Flag Bend Barrel Ball Sporting Figure 8
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All Enquiries

Fiona Lawrence  
Email: [f.lawrence5@bigpond.com](mailto:f.lawrence5@bigpond.com)  
Phone: 02 4930 1415 (school hours)  
Mobile: 0448 300 023

**Facilities:**

Canteen – Will be available all day from 7.30 am



PUBLIC EXHIBITION



SATURDAY 22 NOVEMBER

# A Lego Fan Display

Huge Raffle  
22 items  
1<sup>st</sup> prize Lego  
Quilt, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize  
Lego clock

Food &  
drinks  
available

By Bay Bricks PLUS Lego for sale

Where : Recreation Centre Time:

11am-3pm

Cost: \$10/family or \$3pp

Lego building competition

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize – Primary school

1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> prize- Secondary school + the young at heart

Also Featuring



\*KINSpirit- Iris & Daylily Farm

\*Thermomix demonstration

\*Georgia Bandy- Any who Art

\*Fairyfloss van

\*Jumping castle & slide

\*Peg bags/aprons/crochet t-towels

\*BPS cake stall

\*Palinga dog coats

\*Cement items-bird bath/statue/stools

\*Handmade sewing items

\*Gem jewellery

\*Dvd/football items/toys/wool& cotton

\*Jams/jellies/caramelized onion/sauces

\*BPS book stall

\* Linda Benson massage

\*BPS toy stall

\*Bonsai club- not for sale but demonstration

\* Sugar Loaf Soap

\*Coffee truck

\*Jewellery

\* Leanne Franks tattoos

\*Intimo Lingerie- (Cancer council )

\*Face painting + arts & crafts

\* Plant stall \$2 + **more stalls**

Proudly put on by Barrington Public School P & C

(to purchase computers for the school)

For more details contact Melinda Higgins 65587515 or

Email [james.melinda@clearmail.com.au](mailto:james.melinda@clearmail.com.au)



## 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 &  
Communities

Principal  
Deputy Principal  
Address:  
Telephone:  
Email:

Mr Pat Cavanagh  
Mr Mike King  
129 Ravenshaw Street, Gloucester NSW 2422  
6558 1605 Fax: 6558 1229  
[gloucester-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gloucester-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)