

## School Calendar

**Friday 8 December**

Multicultural Day

**Monday 11 December**

Presentation Night 6pm

**Wednesday 13 December**

PBL Rewards Day - Stoney Aqua Park

**Friday 15 December**

Students last day Term 4

**2024**

**Tuesday 30 - Wednesday 31 January**

Staff Development Days

**Thursday 1 February**

Year 7, 11 & 12 students return

**Friday 2 February**

Year 8, 9 & 10 students return

**Tuesday 6 February**

Swimming Carnival

**Thursday 8 February**

School Photos

## P&C

Our next P&C meeting will be:

**Monday 19 February 2024**

6.30pm - Room AG03

## CANTEEN - Phone 65589963

**Monday 4 December**

Gai

**Tuesday 5 December**

Amanda

**Wednesday 6 December**

Merrilyn

**Thursday 7 December**

Kelly

**Friday 8 December**

Gai

**Monday 11 December**

Gai

**Tuesday 12 December**

Amanda

**Wednesday 13 December**

Merrilyn

**Thursday 14 December**

Gai

**Friday 15 December**

Gai

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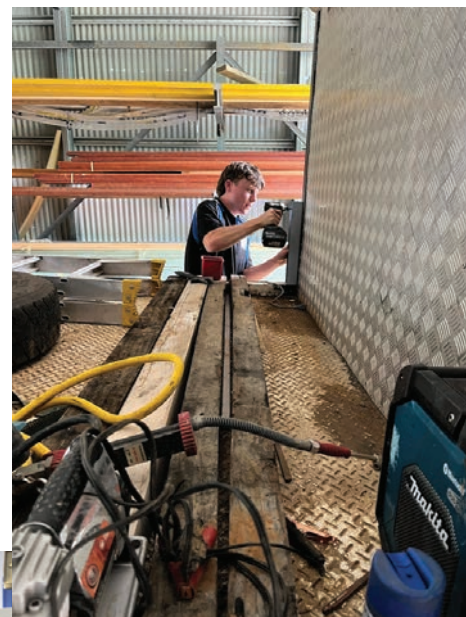


## TRY-A-TRADE DAY

Year 9 students selected a specific industry and participated in activities at school or on Work Experience Placements. The main goal of the day was to offer students hands-on experiences in an industry of their choice.

This is one way to help them explore a potential career path and to help make more informed decisions about their future.

(Continued on page 4)



Bradley using the impact driver with LMD Building Services



Nikita, on Barista duties, developing her coffee making skills



Phineas feeding a calf at at Speldon Dairy



## 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

We had a wonderful orientation day last Tuesday. It was a full day for our Year 7, 2024 students. The day commenced with a meeting for both students and parents to introduce staff and to outline staff roles, school expectations and support structures for students. The parents were provided with a package of information and workbooks for the students for next year. After the formalities, students were treated to activities with their peer support leaders and mini lessons from teachers. Thanks to Mr Cornall and his SRC team for cooking the barbecue and to Mrs Stanton (Year Adviser) for the organisation of the day. This is a major day on the school calendar and many people work tirelessly behind the scenes: P&C collation of the students packages, the office staff distributing packages and fielding enquiries from parents, the staff who relieved in the classroom or the playground for the teachers involved in the assembly, conducting mini lessons, supporting the year adviser or purchasing the food for the barbecue... a very big thank you.



The year is quickly drawing to a close, however, the expectation is that students should be attending school. Some classes are finishing off units of work, other classes are starting mini-interest projects and Year 10 students have been provided with the opportunity to attend work experience with various businesses and providers in Gloucester. On Wednesday, Mr De Angelis organised a Try-A-Trade Day for our Year 9 students. Many businesses and institutions open their doors to provide students with information or a 'hands-on' taster of various opportunities within their establishment. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all providers, both for the Work Experience and Try-A-Trade programs for supporting our students in planning their future pathways. We are looking forward to the End of Year Concert to be held on 14 December. I have enjoyed listening to the students practising with their band, singing in a group or as a duo. Attending the practice sessions, I am so pleased to see the confidence and personal growth in these students. Thanks to Mrs Ingram and Mr Swadling for supporting the interests of these students. It will be a great day.

Our Year 9 students spent last week on the Gold Coast. The teachers reported that they received glowing feedback from the venues, the accommodation owners and the bus driver on the positive/polite behaviour and connectedness of our students. We know we have great students and a great school, but to hear this from independent sources is validation for parents and staff. From all accounts the students had a fantastic time and many thanks to Mr and Mrs Cameron and Mrs Andrews who accompanied Year 9.

Semester 2 reports will be distributed during the last week of term and a reminder that the Annual Presentation Evening is on Monday 11 December.

**Mrs Trudi Edman, Principal**



### **SCHOOL PHOTOS 2024**

### **THURSDAY 8 FEBRUARY**

### **(TERM 1 - WEEK 2)**



**School photo price lists and/or envelopes will be available at the start of the 2024 school year.**  
**Online ordering will be available from late January 2024 and will have an extended period, as photos are early in the school year.**

# COVID SMART MEASURES

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that we are still continuing our COVID-smart measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses such as the flu in our school community.

## Our COVID-smart measures

While the community continues to live with COVID-19, NSW Health has advised that the unpredictable nature of the virus will continue to present a health risk to the community. As a response, our school will continue to operate with our baseline COVID-smart measures in place throughout this term to minimise transmission while prioritising student and staff wellbeing. These includes a combination of layered safety measures such as:

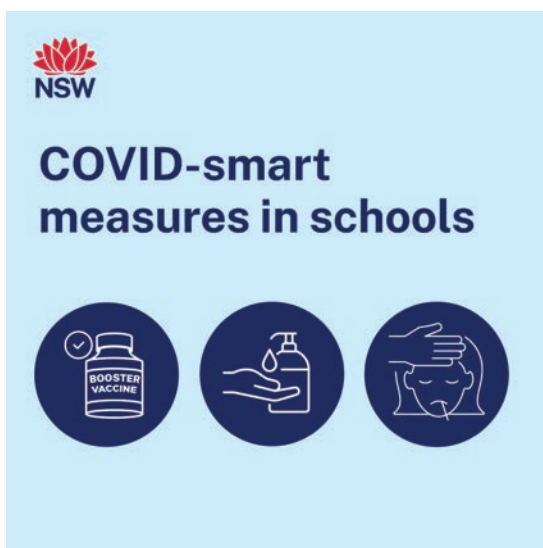
- Staying home if unwell and encouraged to test for COVID-19 if showing any [symptoms](#). Students and staff are advised to stay home until they are well, even if they have a negative COVID-19 test result. Students can be supported to [learn remotely](#) if they are well enough.
- Recommending masks to be worn by all students, staff and visitors, particularly when indoors or when physical distancing is difficult to maintain, [if exposed to COVID-19](#), and when interacting with students at greater risk of serious illness if they were to contract COVID-19 – including students in Schools for Specific Purposes, support units and some mainstream settings.
- Encouraging up-to-date vaccinations for our students and staff, including COVID-19 booster shots and flu vaccinations for anyone eligible.
- Maintaining natural ventilation with windows and doors open whenever possible, including when cooling/heating systems are in use.
- Continuing to provide RATs to our school community, free of charge while stocks last.

Our school may be directed to temporarily reintroduce additional COVID-19 measures, including mask-wearing and postponing events and gatherings, or directing a cohort to learn from home for a short period to minimise transmission risks. The Department of Education's Health, Safety and Staff Wellbeing Case Management team will continue to lead this work when it is needed.

For further information about the COVID-smart measures in place this term refer to the department's [COVID-smart measures at school](#) on our Advice for families page.

On behalf of our school, I want to thank you for your support in helping to keep our students, staff and community safe.

**Mrs Trudi Edman, Principal**





## TRY-A-TRADE DAY

Although it's only a day, the intention is to give each student a taste of what a particular industry would be like. For most students, this objective was met, based on their positive feedback provided in a survey they completed at the end of the day.

Months ago, Year 9 students completed career activities which gave an indication of what kind of work students wanted to experience. Based on this information, local employers were contacted, and arrangements were made to conduct the work placements on the day. The sessions allowed students to engage with professional workers within the industry, ask questions, perform basic tasks and/or observe the daily operations of a business.

Most students were able to come back to school for a free sausage sizzle and a soft drink. Acknowledgments to Mr Sam Cornall, the SRC, Ms Hannah Yates and Mr Tim Gould for their outstanding efforts in organising lunch and ensuring its success. Their contributions were instrumental in making the day memorable for everyone involved.

Try A Trade Day complements the Gloucester High School Careers program and provides present day, realistic information so students can more successfully navigate their career path by making informed, planned, and thoughtful decisions. It is a great prelude to the Work Experience Program which will take place at the end of Term 1 2024. Many students will hopefully have a better idea of where they want to (or not want to) complete Work Experience next year.

This is a unique opportunity and a privilege that is only possible due to the support from the local business community and volunteers. The involvement of local businesses and volunteers is crucial in making such events possible, and it's heartening to see the strong support from the Gloucester community. The diverse range of businesses participating in the event reflects the broad spectrum of career opportunities available to students. Gloucester High School would like to thank Gloucester Soldiers Memorial Hospital, Anglicare Aged Care (Mirrabooka), Gloucester Preschool, Barrington Street Preschool and Long Day Care, Bucketts Radio, Speldon Dairy, Gloucester Rego and Auto Repairs, Greg Forbes Automotive, Gloucester Autolec, Raine and Horne Real-Estate, Merewether Pastoral, Pioneer Fish Farm, BL Plater & KJ Buttel Dairy, Belbora Organics, Volt Electrical, Leveltec Technology, Willford Dairy and John Kell from NC TAFE. From the list of employers and businesses, it is apparent that this was an exciting day and highlights the diverse motivations and interests our students have regarding their School to Work transitions.

I would also like to thank Year 9 students. The feedback I received from employers was extremely positive. I also want to commend them for their very mature and professional attitude on the day, as well as their amazing efforts in returning all notes, permission slips and insurance papers to make the day possible. Well done to all!

**Mr Mike De Angelis, Careers Adviser**



**Marley and Jess hard at work at Gloucester Pre School & Early Years Learning Centre**

## CLASS OF '73 REUNION

Gloucester High School Class of 1973 had a reunion on Saturday 25 November.

They attended the school during the day and toured the facilities now on offer. They noticed some big differences but also things that had been the same for the past 50 years. The group had fun remembering their experiences at school and spoke about the positive impact that their teachers had on them all.

Here is an email received from class member Russell Mason.

*'Good morning GHS,*

*I just wanted to send a brief note to thank you for your time and enthusiasm in showing the Year 10 (or Fourth Form as we knew it) of 1973 around Gloucester High School on Saturday afternoon.*

*Your insights and observations were very interesting. The tour certainly brought back some great memories of happy times during my six years at the school.*

*Gloucester High School was, and I'm sure still is, a special place. We had wonderful teachers who cared about the students and, as well as teaching us the academic side of school, taught us the social and inter-personal skills that are so essential for a happy and successful life. Teachers like Peter Nixon, Les Potter, Louise Middlebrook, Col Moore, Peter Webb and Bob Wallace, to name but a few, stand out as people who helped me achieve so much. As a teenage boy I didn't necessarily appreciate their efforts and dedication so I'd like to thank them, and people such as you and the rest of the staff at Gloucester High, for all that they and you do to develop young people and instil life-long values and standards. My success at university and a long career in business can be directly attributed to my upbringing and education in Gloucester.*

*I greatly value my time at Gloucester High School and I know it, and its staff, set me on the right path for a good life. Thank you for all that you and your colleagues do to educate the generations of young people in Gloucester. While it may often be the case that graduating students don't realise your contribution to their lives as they leave school, please know your efforts are appreciated by us throughout our lives.*

*Kind regards,*

*Russell.'*





## YEAR 9 GOLD COAST EXCURSION

Last week, 35 students and 3 staff made their way to the Gold Coast for the Year 9 excursion. The bus trip on the way up the coast was full of excitement and anticipation of the week ahead. The group was full of energy, lots of chatter, music in full swing and singing voices not quite in unison. A movie providing some respite for part of the journey.

We arrived on the Gold Coast to a rainy afternoon, but this did not stop some putt putt golf and a little exploring.

We were greeted by a rainy morning on Day 2 but this only ensured perfect conditions for DreamWorld. The weather cleared on arrival and this kept the crowds away. After a short koala talk, students had a great day walking straight onto rides. The Steel Taipan, The Giant Drop and the Claw proving very popular. The late afternoon saw some free time at Treasure Island before dinner where the pool and the slide were enjoyed by almost all the students.

On Day 3 we headed for Bounce Trampoline Park where the students enjoyed dodgeball, basketball slam dunk and attempted to “walk the wall”. An hour of bouncing worked up a sweat for a dip at the beach, followed by some fish and chips for lunch. The afternoon entailed some shopping where some bargains were snapped up and the “best BCF in Australia” was discovered adjacent to our accommodation. In the evening we enjoyed a year group dinner at Kurrawa Surf Club. A lovely meal with a great view of the beach from our tables.

On Day 4 we headed for Wet N Wild. The weather was great and we shared the venue with a few other school groups. The Kaboom, the Black Hole, Kamikaze and The Tornado all received rave reviews from the students.

After a fantastic week we headed home on Friday with a much quieter bus trip down the highway. Dylan Crossley’s quiz providing some entertainment for those playing along.

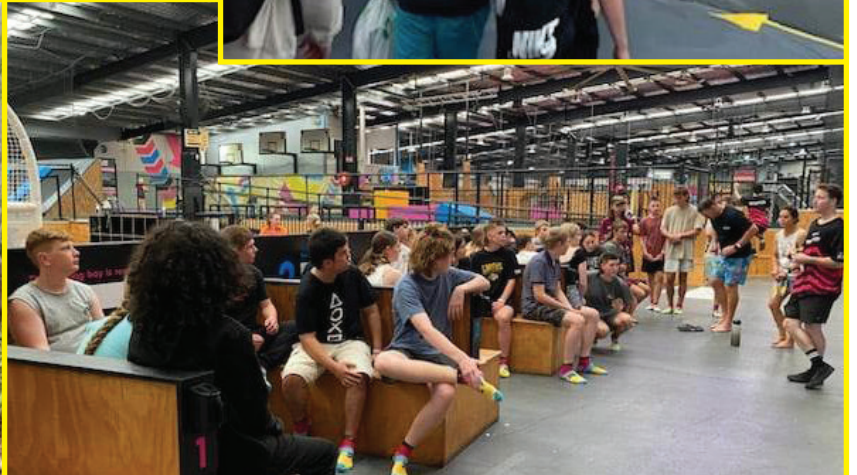
A great week was had by all with many memories created. It was such a pleasure as Year Adviser to take this amazing year group away.

Many thanks to Mrs Andrews and Mrs Cameron for all their assistance on the excursion.

**Mr Adam Cameron, Year 9 Adviser**









## YEAR 6 ORIENTATION DAY

Thank you to parents/carers and students for coming along to our full day Orientation Day for Year 6. Information packs were provided on the day, if you have not received one please please contact the school. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Toni Stanton (Year 7 Adviser for 2024) on 6558 1605.



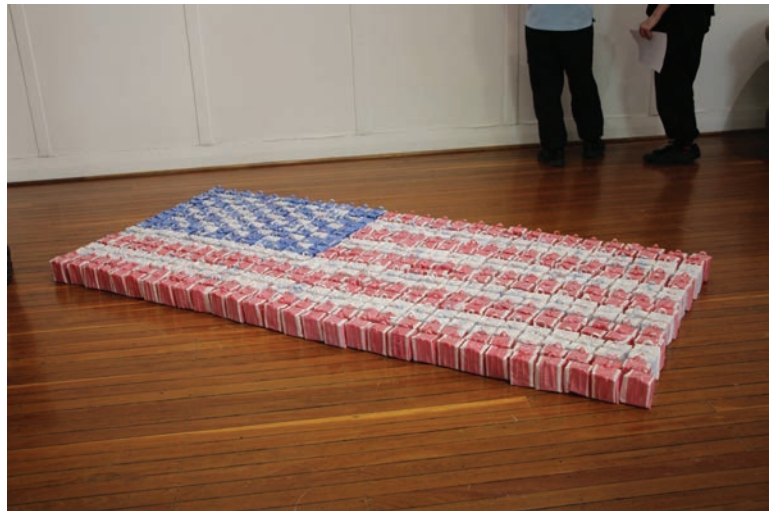


## GALLERY VISIT

Year 10 and 11 Visual Arts students visited the Gloucester Gallery this week to see the work of local contemporary artist Kylie Goldthorpe. The work exposed students to ideas about consumerism, cultural oppression and Totalitarianism. Gallery Administrator, Charlie Lethbridge also spoke to students about her role and the role of a community gallery. Thank you Charlie.

\* Photos in the gallery taken by the students.

**Mrs Wendy Fraser, Art Teacher**





## YEAR 7 ART

Year 7 Visual Arts have finished their crazy clay creatures and are now working on still-life painting.

They are trying to notice shape, shading and shadow.

Mrs Jill Malone, Art Teacher





## THANK YOU AMBER AND KIMMY!

Our weaving groups are almost finished for the year. Many thanks go out to our local Aboriginal Education Consultative Group (AECG) Chairperson, Amber Galvin, along with Kimmy Wright, for providing our students with the knowledge and skills to work together creating these woven discs. The last few sessions have been spent weaving them all together to form a wall mural in the shape of a Wedge-Tailed Eagle. Many others, including a number of our male students, have also contributed to this project. Some lovely times have been spent together relaxing, yarnning and connecting to Country with Amber and Kimmy's guidance.



## JAXON VISITS GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOL

Last week Mrs Hoskin, Mr Seale and Year 10 student Jaxon Griffis-Powick visited Gloucester Public School (GPS).

Braxton McDonald (student at GPS) is running a Bey Blade competition at lunch times. Jaxon organised a Bey Blade competition back when he was in Mrs Seale's class. This visit was an opportunity for Jaxon to teach Braxton how to organise and run a competition as well as reminisce about his time in the primary school. He caught up with teachers and had a look around.

It was a fantastic opportunity and the primary students were very appreciative of the guidance Jaxon was able to give (they also loved his Bey Blades).

I big thank you to the primary school for facilitating this opportunity.





## OPEN GIRLS NETBALL GALA DAY 2023

The Open Girls Netball Gala Day will now be held during Term 4 each year to reduce the number of sports activities in Term 1.

Last Thursday, the girls Netball team competed in the Manning Zone Netball Gala Day. The team consisted of Mackenzie Schafer, Lara Maslen, Elana Pope, Emma Bignell, Selina Denyer, Ruby Tonks, Kaitlyn Beggs, Emily Beggs, and Melody Maslen.

The team played four games throughout the day. First, we took on Taree, demonstrating excellent defensive play by Lara and Mackenzie against Taree's tall shooters, coming away with a 28 - 12 win. As the day heated up, we played Great Lakes in the second round. The girls performed extremely well early into the game, although Forster were a well-drilled team and came away with the win in the second half 19 - 14. We then played Wingham in the third round. They proved tough competition earlier this year and they still had the tallest goal shooter of the day who is only 15 years old! Emma, Melody and Emily showed fantastic movement of the ball down the court, and Selina and Ruby made some great intercepts which reduced Wingham's chance of getting the ball to their shooter. This game was a nail biter, but with our goal shooters Elana and Kaitlyn on point, we came out on top 27 - 21. We mustered what little energy we had left and defeated Chatham in the last game 18 - 10.

The girls fought hard and played extremely well as a team in all games. They all displayed exceptional determination and good sportsmanship skills that Gloucester is well-known for. The top 2 teams from this Gala Day progress onto the next round to represent the Manning Zone at the Hunter Carnival in March next year. It was tight because 3 teams only lost 1 game each all day. It relied on a count back of goals, with Gloucester coming 2nd overall!! So, off to Hunter next year for us! Congratulations girls on your achievements and perseverance on such a humid day!

In addition, a Manning Zone team of the best players in each position was selected through participation on the day. This eliminated the need for Hunter Trials. Congratulations goes to Emma Bignell for being selected in this team.

A big thank you to Tracey Bignell for umpiring, and to our lovely, supportive parents for cheering us on.

**Mrs Toni Stanton, Netball Coach**



**Back L to R:**

**Mackenzie Schafer, Lara Maslen, Selina Denyer, Emma Bignell, Elana Pope, Ruby Tonks**

**Front L to R:**

**Melody Maslen, Kaitlyn Beggs, Emily Beggs**





# HUNTER TRIALS 2024

## THE BASICS!

ALL HUNTER Team Trials are going online from Term 1 2024. No more permission notes!

'Online' means that you will need to register and pay on DASH, the platform that we will be using!

<https://nswschoolsportunit.dashapp.com.au/auth/login>

## HUNTER TRIALS

All Hunter Regional trials nominations must be completed via the DASH platform for 2024. A DASH account must be set up in order to do this. Please see the information flyer.

For Swimming, X-Country and Athletics, qualification for Hunter will be via Zone carnivals as per previous years.

If you have any questions, please call Mr Cameron at school on 6558 1605.

## STEP ONE

If you don't already have an account go to DASH and set one up. If you already have one - great - jump to Step 3.



## STEP TWO

This is for parents. Add your child to your account, once you log in follow the prompts to complete the application.

## STEP THREE

Once the account is all ready to go, visit the link or **scan the QR code** to view the Hunter trials that are open for application.

<https://bit.ly/3MeM9Ut>



## STEP FOUR

Choose the trial that you wish to apply for and begin an application. Don't forget you must pay the Trial levy on the DASH platform



## STEP FIVE

Complete all steps in the application. The form will be sent directly to the school for approval. Make sure all steps are complete by the due date. No late entries will be accepted!



## SUCCESS AT NATIONALS FOR LACHLAN

Lachlan Sansom competed in the Australian Bushmen's Campdraft & Rodeo Association LTD (ABCRA) National Finals Campdraft and Australian Championships at North Star last week and has won the Juvenile National Title 13-17years. He also placed 4th in the aggregate and equal 3rd in the Championships, highest point Australian stock horse point score and placed 5th in a round of the novice (competing with the adults).

Well done Lachlan!



### STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

We love to hear about student achievements outside of school. If you have something worth sharing please send in photos and info to [gloucester-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:gloucester-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



## STUDENTS COMPETE AT ZONE LITTLE ATHLETICS

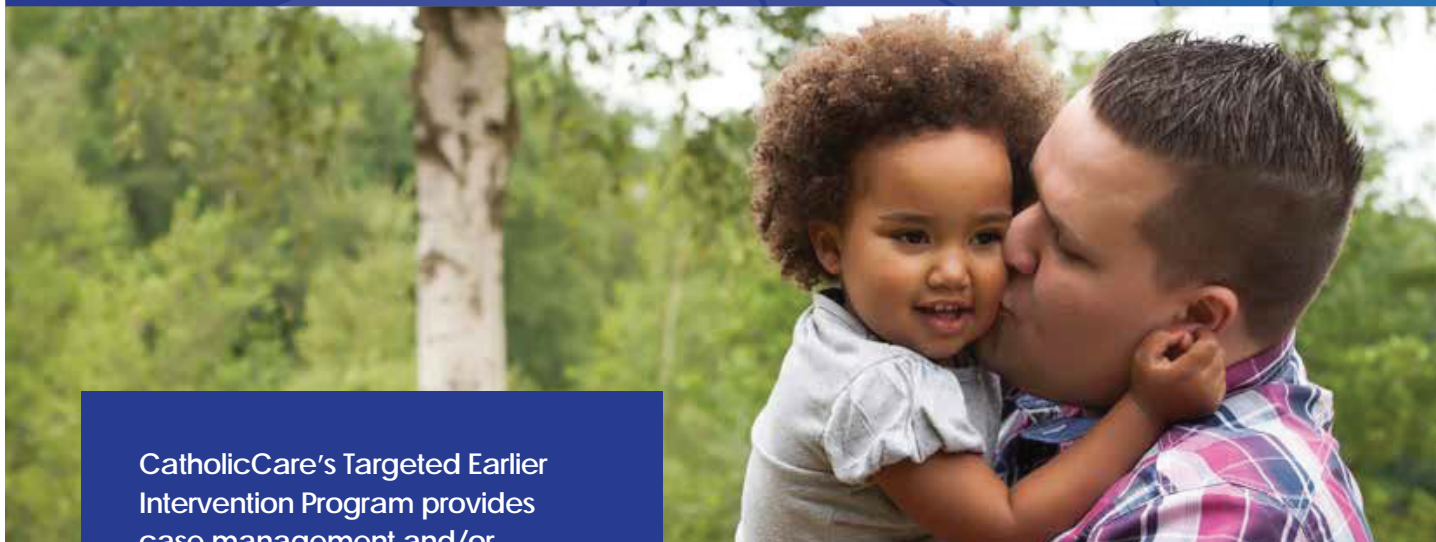
The Little Athletics Zone Carnival was hosted by Gloucester Little Athletics Club this year. Congratulations to Liam Wamsley and Kaitlin Perry who have both made it through to the Regional Championships to be held at Tamworth in February, 2024.

At regionals Liam will compete in 90m hurdles, 200m hurdles, shotput, discus and the 1,500 walk while Kaitlin will compete in the 1,500 walk, shotput and discus. Good luck!





# Targeted Earlier Intervention Program



CatholicCare's Targeted Earlier Intervention Program provides case management and/or counselling services for young people and their families in Maitland and Gloucester.

Support offered varies depending on needs, but may include counselling, information and referral, and help with parenting concerns and troubles.

We promote family cohesion and create a supportive environment aimed at preventing issues for young people and their families from escalating.

## Who can access CatholicCare's TEI program?

The service targets young people and their families in Maitland and Gloucester.

There are a few ways a young person or family can become involved.

- ▶ With permission, they can be referred by a community agency or a school.
- ▶ They can self refer.

Participation in the program is voluntary.

## Costs

The TEI Program is a free support service that comes at no cost to participants. It is funded by the NSW Government Department of Communities and Justice.

**Gloucester office:** 47 King St Gloucester NSW 2422

P 02 6558 1777

E [gloucesteryouthandparenting@catholiccare.org.au](mailto:gloucesteryouthandparenting@catholiccare.org.au)

**Maitland office:** 3/605 High St Maitland NSW 2320

P 02 4015 2800

E [youthandfamily@catholiccare.org.au](mailto:youthandfamily@catholiccare.org.au)

01170



[catholiccare.org.au](http://catholiccare.org.au)



## CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

Sunday December 17th 2023  
at the Gloucester Showground.

A BBQ will be available from 6.30pm

Programme to start at 7.30pm

Candles & bangles for sale



Transport for NSW



## School Student Travel

Term 4 2023

2024 school travel applications are now open

Students who need a new or replacement School Opal card or travel pass for 2024 can [apply](#) now. A new application will need to be submitted if they are applying for the first time, or if they are requesting an additional travel entitlement because of a new shared parental arrangement (e.g. joint custody).

Students who change address, school, campus location, have repeated a year or received an expiry notification for their school travel entitlement should [renew or update](#) their details **before the end of term 4**. This will ensure that schools can endorse applications, and travel passes remain valid for the start of the 2024 school year. School Opal card holders will have the changes applied to their existing card.

If a student's distance eligibility has changed based on their grade (i.e. grade two to grade three), the system will automatically update their entitlement if they meet the new criteria. If they do not meet the new [eligibility criteria](#), we will send an expiry notification via email.

Students who have an entitlement approved under a medical condition that is due to expire will receive a notification advising them to re-apply.

[Term Bus Pass](#) holders will receive a notification to re-apply.

Students in the Opal network applying for an Opal card (including a Term Bus Pass) for the first time will receive their Student Opal card at their nominated postal address. Cards will be mailed out from January 2024.

Students living in rural and regional (R&R) areas should receive their travel pass at the start of the new school year from their nominated transport operator. It may come via the school or be sent directly to them at home. **Note:** some R&R operators do not issue travel passes.

Students/parents should confirm with their nominated operator if they do not receive a pass.

## 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

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