

# Blues News



## Gosford High School & Community News

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Issue November 2016 – Term 4

29/11/2016

### Gosford High P&C News

Next P&C Meeting:  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 6:30 pm  
Common Room- Everyone welcome

#### PRINCIPAL'S NEWS

*The hardest part is starting. Once you get that out of the way, you'll find the rest of the journey much easier.*

Simon Sinek

This is my final Blues News as I retire as Principal of Gosford High School and the NSW Department of Education's service at the end of this term. There it is, said and so now, really real. My position is in the process of being filled by merit selection and it is the intention of the Director that a new Principal will be in place for the beginning of the new academic year.

It is with mixed feelings I write this last message to you, our supportive and caring school community. I am excited to begin the next phase of my life but feel saddened to leave the privileged position as leader of this wonderful institution for the last 10 years. I'm proud of our students, our teachers and our community and what we have achieved together. Our strength is our focus on the whole student and the provision of an academically rigorous education, as would be expected at an academically selective school, that is beautifully balanced by a student centred approach to learning where all aspects of the individual are valued. Students can find their own place in the school, and a peer group that will nurture and support them as leaders, tutors, artists, musicians, athletes, writers, film makers, mathematicians, scientists, social scientists, entrepreneurs, poets, game designers, chess players, programmers, environmentalists, in sound and light teams, in bands, ensembles, choirs, and so much more. They do this with teachers who really care about them as individual people and this is reflected in the students' love of their school.

Our student leadership programs and practices have been recognised nationally and internationally and our innovations in student voice have been emulated by other schools. The opportunities we have been able to create empowered our students to establish our values as a school community and I think these sum up who we are and what we believe; excellence, opportunity, integrity, spirit and diversity. Our young people exemplify these values whilst at school and also by

continuing to embody these as a constant to underpin thinking and behaviour.

Other, highly valued staff members are also leaving the service.

Rob Wharton has been an important and integral part of the English faculty for many years and he took leave prior to retirement last term. Rob's unassuming demeanour coupled with his huge intellect and sublime command of the language made him a gifted teacher and he is missed by students and staff. We wish Rob well and a very happy retirement.

Suellen McLean, Madame to her students, brought the French language alive over many years and her passion for the teaching of the language she loves and her expert practice leave a legacy of talented linguists in the world beyond our school. We offer Suellen our congratulations and best hopes for her foray into the new world of retirement.

Grant Jackson, agriculture teacher extraordinaire, is going to be a hard act to follow. His Ag Gats program, bringing the joys of large and small animal husbandry to students for whom this experience would have been impossible to gain, has been a most remarkable contribution to our school and to public education. Many people may not be aware that the thousands of hours Grant put into this program were all voluntary and he is revered by the many students who were able to enjoy the fun of the farm, the excitement of the shows and the delight of being with animals. Such is his commitment to the farm and its future that he has secured donations to purchase a replacement utility to ensure the sustainability of all his great work. We thank Grant for his remarkable contribution and hope he has a most wonderful retirement.

I will have more to say about the school's achievements for the year in my speech on Presentation Night and that will be published in the school's magazine, Bellbird, which will be available digitally this year for the first time.

One last profound and pertinent thought in this troubled world - from Confucius: *Education breeds confidence. Confidence breeds hope. Hope breeds peace*

I wish you all a safe and happy end of year break, a joyous Christmas and a new year filled with promise.

Lynne Searle  
**Principal**



## Coming Events

### December 2016

Fri	2/12	Cabaret Night
Mon	12/12	Presentation Evening
Fri	16/12	Last Day Years 7-11

### January 2017

Mon	30/1	Yrs 7/11/12 Return
Tues	31/1	Yrs 8/9/10 Return

### DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

At Gosford High School we encourage our students to be responsible citizens and members of our community while wearing our uniform proudly. Our school is in a busy neighbourhood and our students travel to and from school at the absolute busiest of times. It has been pleasing then to get a call from a member of the public this week to praise the courtesy and respectful behaviour of our students who travel on the train. The caller, a former Mayor from Sydney, had travelled to the coast with a group of elderly friends and was boarding the train at Gosford Station as a large group of Gosford High students were about to get on. He commended a young female student who noticed the visitors were about to get on and along with her friends asked fellow students to step aside and wait, which they did patiently, while they safely got on the train and to their seats. A small gesture that has gone a long way in enhancing the reputation of our school.

It has been a busy and rewarding term so far as we move closer to ending 2016. Year 12 have successfully completed their HSC Examinations and are to be congratulated on their studies and the way they conducted themselves throughout. The HSC Supervisor, Brenda Mitchell, noted that this Year 12 was an exceptional group and to be commended. We eagerly await positive results next month. The Year 12 formal, held at the Crowne Plaza at Terrigal, was an outstanding event and it was wonderful to share the fine occasion with this remarkable group of young men and women, as well as parents prior to the dinner. Special thanks must go to the Year 12 Adviser Sonja Baylis and her team of helpers for the organisation of this event.

Year 10 have been involved in Wellbeing Week this week, coordinated by Mr Singh, the Year 10 Adviser. The week involves groups visiting Macquarie University, road safety and working collaboratively on a project, developing skills in team work, problem solving and reflecting on their learning. Throughout the process products and procedures will be proposed and designed by each group to support the transition of students from one year to the next. We look forward to seeing the outcomes and the chance to share these to support our community.

Last Wednesday we welcomed our incoming Year 11's for 2016 with a morning tea and tour of the school and I thank Mr Singh for his work in providing this opportunity to make our new senior students feel welcome and begin to be a part of the school for their senior studies.

Welcome also to our new Year 7 2017 and their families who will be coming for their Orientation Day on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December. I hope this introduction provides the opportunity too for students and their parents to meet the key staff who will be working closely with Year 7 next year, including Ms Johnson, Year 7 Year Adviser 2017.

To all the school community we wish you happy holidays and a happy and healthy New Year.

Gary Bennett & Rebecca Cooper  
Deputy Principal

### ABSENCE FROM SCHOOL

**Absence from school is notified using SMS on the day of the absence.**

**Parents are reminded that if your child is absent, a note must be provided immediately on return to school.**

**Absences for part of a day, including late to school, are also required to have a note of explanation submitted.**

### CASH REGISTER



**The cash register is closed after second recess every Friday and the last day of every month**

### CAPA

Congratulations to Amelia Johns who was recently short listed for the Joy Ewart Scholarship, awarded to Year 10 students undertaking studies in the visual arts as part of their HSC in Year 11. Amelia's portfolio of artworks has been selected for exhibition at the Workshop Arts Centre Willoughby, 15<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> November. A fantastic achievement and honour for Amelia.





Gosford High School

### Visual Arts Exhibition 2016 Year 7 and Year 9

Official Opening Monday 5th December, 5-7pm

Exhibition open Tuesday 6th December and Wednesday 7th December, 9am - 3.30pm

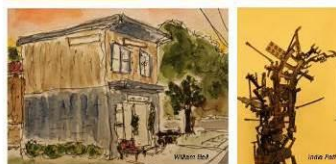
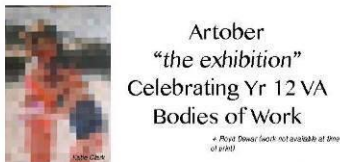
Gosford High School

Futures Room

Visitors to the school should arrive via the front office



Earlier this term Year 12 visual arts students visited the Art Gallery of NSW to extend their knowledge of Modernism. Art gallery staff provided a guided tour discussing Modernism with specific reference to artworks from the gallery's permanent collection. After a short break they dashed back into the gallery to view the Dobell Australian Drawing Biennial 2016 and the Kaldor collection. The day provided a fantastic opportunity for art students to view with close scrutiny the techniques of such an influential period of the arts.



## DRAMA

**Congratulations:** Jessica Vandine in Year 11 for being shortlisted for the Bell Shakespeare Scholarship. This is an incredible achievement as only 17 students were chosen from all of Australia!

**Congratulations:** Jenna Woodhouse for first place in the Arts Alive Film Festival and to Alexander Czerwaniw, Nikolai Teliatnikov, Bradley Tham, Heathcliff Ryan and David Liu for coming second in the Arts Alive Film Festival.



**'Wicked':** On Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> of November, Year 9, 10 and 11 drama students were given the opportunity to go to Laycock Street Theatre to watch the Gosford Musical Society production of 'Wicked'. This was an invaluable experience for the students as it was an outstanding show with incredibly talented performers.

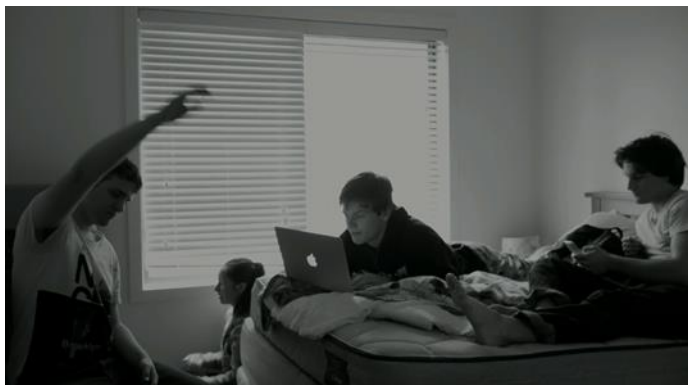
**School Musical:** Rehearsals are well underway for the Gosford High School Musical 'The Wizard of Oz'. This is sure to be an outstanding show!

**Important dates for your diary:**

**'Fairy tales at Gosford Primary'**: On Tuesday the 6<sup>th</sup> of December, Year 9 drama students will be attending Gosford Primary School to perform their self-devised Fairy Tales.

**'Broadway Night'**: On Friday the 9<sup>th</sup> of December the Year 10 drama class are performing a Musical Theatre Showcase. Family and friends are welcome to come. It starts at 5:00pm with a gold coin donation for entry, and the theme is: red carpet.

**Year Ten Drama Short Film Assessments**



**MUSIC**

FRIDAY • 2 DECEMBER 2017 • 6:30PM

# GOSFORD HIGH SCHOOL CONCERT BANDS

• CABARET NIGHT •

IN THE SCHOOL HALL

TICKET SALES : BBQ, TEA, COFFEE,  
@ THE DOOR : CAKES & DRINKS

OR...  
BRING A PICNIC  
DINNER

A GREAT FAMILY NIGHT WITH A CHRISTMAS THEME



Stage Band performing at Jazz League



Concert Band 2 performing at Kids Day Out



Chamber Ensemble Performance



## HISTORY

Year 10 history have been presenting their research on the social, political and cultural issues in Australia during the decades from the 1950's through to the 1990's.

An amazing variety of talent has been unearthed in this retro rampage and students have been thoroughly engaged in this project based group learning task. Mr McCumstie, Mrs Morgan and Ms Scarr's classes have been involved over the last few weeks and the results have been great.

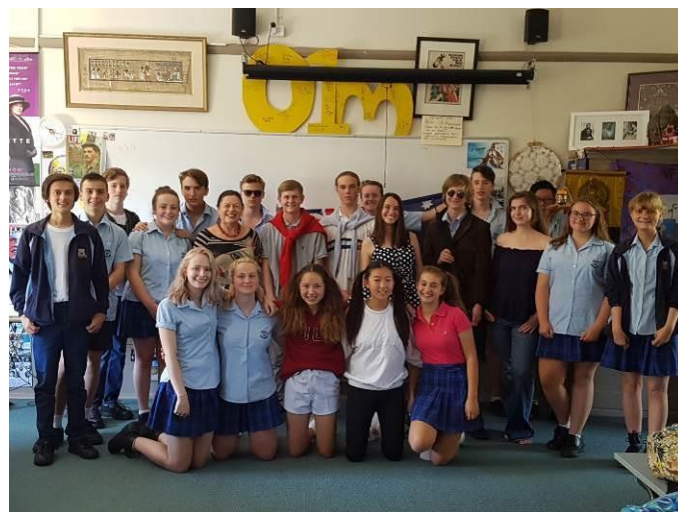


The 1980's group performed a medley of iconic 1980's songs including "Eye of the Tiger", Men at Work's "The Land Downunder", "Kung Fu Fighting" while costume and prop changing and outlining key events such as the America's Cup victory.

"Double Denim" was the look preferred by the 1990's group who performed some very slick dance steps to Michael Jackson's "Thriller" and the Macarena and gave a snapshot into the main events and popular culture of the decade.



The 1950's group showcased their decade with an ingeniously choreographed Elvis Rock and Roll mash up and then a segueway into the "old school" crooning of Gene Kelly and "Singing in the Rain".



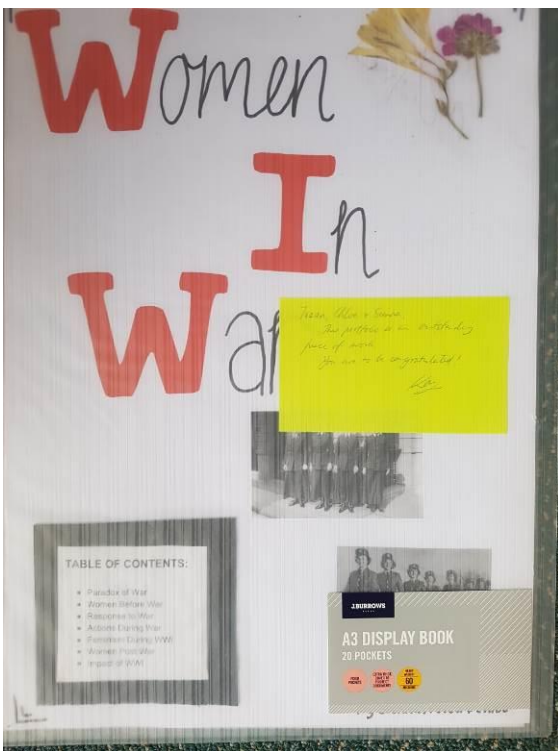
## YEAR 9 HISTORY PARADOX OF WAR ASSESSMENTS

A selection of some of the visual displays from the group presentations on the Paradox of War have been put on display in the corridor outside rooms A7, 8 and 9. Mrs Gray, Mr McCumstie, Mrs Morgan and Mr Wright's classes have been involved. If you are visiting the school, pop in and have a look to see the outstanding quality of these student works. Sign in at the office first.





**Sue Scarr**  
History Staff



## TAS

Students in Technology and Applied Studies are busy adding the finishing touches to their final project work for the year. Year 10 engineering students are about to test their water rockets and analyse the results. Year 9 engineering students are finalising their mousetrap racers and ready for testing and racing. Year 10 food technology students have added the final fondant touches to their exploding cakes whilst Year 9 food technology students are creating a traditional ginger bread house complete with candy embellishments. Year 9 and 10 IST students are also busy coding and developing their independent projects that relate strongly to ICT application in wider society.

Congratulations extend to Megan Watson from year 12 Open High School Textiles and Design 2016. Megan's major textile HSC project has been selected to be exhibited in 'Texstyle'. Texstyle is the State-wide exhibition for exemplary project work selected from the 2016 HSC marking process. Megan created an extraordinary piece of couture work with the wow factor and will appear in the March 2017 Stitches and Craft show at Rosehill. This is a huge compliment for a talented student.

**Congratulations to the Zero Robotics Team**  
*The senior team of ICT students have advanced through the rounds of the competition reaching 3<sup>rd</sup> place in Australia at this point in time and 64<sup>th</sup> in the world!*

This is really a fantastic achievement. The team is currently working on breaking the next code and preparing for their January competition challenge. This Sydney University initiative involves the application of coding, collaboration, creativity and communication skills as the application of STEM

problem solving – the skills inherent to the TAS curriculum.



### **Year 11: Food Technology:** Dietician for a Day

The focus of the excursion was the influence of consumer trends, specifically sustainability and the means by which the Australian Food Industry has met these.

Our first stop was a store in Rozelle called “All About Life” that offers a unique approach as an organic supermarket, café and fast food outlet. Students had the opportunity to explore the huge variety of distinctive and quirky organically certified food stuffs and sample some of the pre-prepared hot and cold ‘ready to go’ options.

A visit to “The Grounds” continued the sustainability focus. This industrial setting provides a very urban non organic response to ecological foods. Close by was the store “Salt Meat Cheese” which reflects the slow food movement with the ability to take classes to make your own pasta, cheese and nut butters. It also stocks a vast array of unusual cheeses, condiments, spices and pastas.

On to Bondi and students visited a Kosher supermarket and Russian Deli and were also assisted in the exploration of the multicultural nature of our food supply and industry.

On the day we also visited one of Adriano Zumbo’s stores. Acknowledged as a leader in his field, his unique and creative pastries and cakes are inspirational. From a dietician’s view point many of his ‘super treats’ are deadly if consumed regularly and the Zonut is no exception but it was a great opportunity to acknowledge the place these foods may have in the diet.

### **Year 10 Food Technology: Exploring Culturally Significant Food**

Beginning with a loud bus trip at seven in the morning blasting the hits of 2012, our year 10 food tech class made our way to Cabramatta, Sydney to begin a Food Safari. Much like one of the jungle, this safari took us to new and exciting places but

yet instead of spotting lions and giraffes, we got to indulge in the many tastes that the abundance of cultures in Cabramatta had to offer.

As we arrived, we set off to eat anything un-Australian, and although some of us did end up eating Thai food at an Aussie Steak House, amongst us we got to taste lebanese rolls and chinese juices, sushi rolls, dog shaped bread and bubble tea to coffee flavoured shortbread. Despite Mr Burge making us play Bohemian Rhapsody multiple times on the bus and almost making Miss Wellham deaf due to it, we ALL came back with full stomachs and huge smiles.

All the things we found on our safari were incredible, and all of which ignited our common love for food and heightened our appreciation for the differences and influences brought along with every culture.  
By Mahni Luafalealo



TASmania17 excursion – Monday March 13<sup>th</sup> to Saturday March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 - a valuable ‘outside the classroom’ and cross curricular experience extending, enriching and reinforcing the curriculum from the classroom.

64 TAS students will be travelling to Tasmania in 2017. This six day excursion is in its eighth year and is a cross curricular educational excursion visiting 22 venues focusing on food, textile and engineering industries from Launceston to Hobart.

All students who have indicated their intentions for this excursion need to collect an excursion pack from Mrs Johnson in TAS and return the enclosed paperwork to the TAS staffroom or to their TAS teacher during the month of November. Please organise the next payment also during the month of November. Email any questions to [maxine.l.johnson@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:maxine.l.johnson@det.nsw.edu.au)

- Signed permission note
- Student healthcare plan – completed and signed by Parent and Doctor



- Travel insurance – signed
- Code of conduct contract – co signed



A memorable school experience for students

**Maxine Johnson**  
Head Teacher TAS

## LANGUAGES

This term the Year 8 German classes have enjoyed a German language and culture immersion day with staff from the Goethe Institute, playing games such as Autobahn and tasting varieties of German sausages. Year 8 Japanese students will roll and eat their own sushi as well as make origami Christmas decorations during week 9. Year 11 Japanese students enjoyed trying on kimono and yukata and thought it was かつこいい (cool)!

Holly Jamieson of Year 10 is currently enjoying an exchange in Germany. Lochlann Niddrie and Emily Davis are both starting their two-month exchanges in Japan. We hope that they have a wonderful time.

Many thanks again go to Ms Michelle Walls for filling in for Ms Jill Turner this year while she was on leave. Ms Turner has decided to return to England to live and has retired from teaching. We wish her all the best for the future.

We are thinking of the 2016 HSC students as they await their results and we hope that all their dreams and plans come to fruition.

Finally, we wish everyone a safe holiday and a Merry Christmas. See you in 2017!

Joyeux Noël, frohe Weihnachten, メリークリスマス (merii kurisumasu), and felix dies Nativitatis!

from the Languages staff



## From the GHS Archives

One highlight of this year has been the transfer of old videos and a reel-to-reel tape to DVD. Some were in very bad condition but there is great footage of Gosford in the 1960s with the last steam train and the first electric train. Another wonderful piece of history has been preserved in Gosford High School 1958 Snapshots which was originally filmed by Robin Taunton on 16mm film. The IT staff will soon be working to make these precious films available for everyone to see.

To end the year I'd like to share with you two photographs from around 1945. The additions and changes to the rear of Gosford High School have been significant over the years while the front view did not alter much for over 60 years. It will look very different in 2017.

Until next year - Judy Heinrich



## Student Wellbeing

### Year 9 Junior Leadership Challenge

This year Student Voice collaborated on a new leadership project that was aimed at year 9 students. As part of this program the students aim was to complete challenges that allowed them to build on their leadership skills. Here are some of our year 9 students participating in making Christmas cards for the lovely elderly residents of Yallabee one of our local aged care service providers. This project was in partnership with

Libby Robertson, Outreach Services Librarian, from Central Coast Council.



## Sport

On behalf of Adam Davidson and myself I would like to thank you for your support throughout 2016. It has been a huge year for sport at Gosford High! We have had NSW representatives, numerous medal winners at CHS carnivals, regional and zone age champions, record breakers and not one but TWO state knockout winning teams. Our school carnivals were well attended, we were represented in many knockout games and gala days and we retained the Malynley Shield after our interschool visit with Orange High.

Of course none of these things would have been possible without the wonderful support from our parent body. Whether it was transporting students, meeting the cost of various competitions, filling in permission notes or ensuring that your child turned up to Wednesday sport in uniform – your help has been appreciated.

A few final mentions for 2016

- **Athletics:** Good luck to Zac Martin who heads to Canberra in December to represent NSW at the National All Schools Athletics Championships
- **Water Polo:** Congratulations to the boys open water polo team who recently competed in the Wombats Cup at Wyong – they finished equal third
- **Oz Tag:** Well done to the years 9 & 10 oztag players who took on Henry Kendall in a “friendly” a few weeks ago – the game was played in great spirit.
- **Weekly sport:** Don't forget that Wednesday sport bus money is to be paid directly to the office next year. Details coming!
- **2017 dates:** check out the dates for next year - start planning your training!!

### TOUCH

Congratulations to the Year 7 & 8 touch teams who participated in the Jenny Bradstock / Peter Wilson Memorial Touch Day recently. This day is held each year in honour of two Central Coast teachers who lost their lives in a car accident in 2003. Jenny's daughter, Kirrily, attended Gosford High and was a NSW CHS touch player.

All teams put in a great effort considering the warm conditions. The best placed team was the girls year 8 team which finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in their division.

Special thanks to these students – Coaching staff: Jessie Martin, Taylor Baric, Tanmai Saha, Josh O’Shea and Oliver Franklin.

Referee – Tarlay Gemmell

Player’s Player Awards: Anya Tatarinoff, Marc Sheather, Lani Bamforth and Elijah Ross

**Jenny Walker**  
**Sports Organiser**



