Year 6 Orientation Day

On Wednesday November 19, ninety students from local primary schools came to GIHS for the year 6 Orientation day.

Thank you to:

⇒ Mrs Jennings in the kitchen for helping to purchase items for the day.
⇒ The chaplains, Michelle Lawson and Paul Smith, as well as the muscles to men students for running the bbq.
⇒ Hooper’s Butchery for the meat and TSG for the bread at cost.
⇒ Miss Bradley, Mrs Gillett, Mrs Newsome, Mr Ireland, Mr Goldstein and Mrs Wright for running sessions on the day.
⇒ The canteen for opening at different times.
⇒ Miss Davis for doing the cover
⇒ And most importantly to our student leaders, Patrick Lane, Hannah Newsome, Bailey Sharman, Linsay Dunn, Darcy Barnes, Kayla Emmi, William Kiehne, April Correy and Zoey Carpenter-Kerr for leading the Year 6 students around the school and helping them all day.

Mrs Malone
and
Mr Pi
PRESENTATION DAY NOTICE

ALL STUDENTS MUST BE IN FULL SCHOOL UNIFORM

Presentation is on Thursday

11th of December

from 10:00am at the Town Hall

A list of all students in Years 7-11 who are receiving awards at this year’s Presentation Day will be posted in Week 10 around the Science Staffroom window and at the student’s notice board. Students are requested to check for their name before Thursday 11th December.

Students in Years 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are to come to school on Thursday morning as normal in full school uniform. A roll-call will be held in normal classrooms, then students will assemble under the barn.

After the ceremony, students will walk back to school (under supervision) to receive their reports.

Students are not to leave from the Town Hall.

DATES TO REMEMBER

3rd December Wednesday ——— Year 10 Formal
3rd December Wednesday ——— Year 8 Excursion
11th December Thursday ——— Presentation Day
17th December Wednesday ——— LAST DAY OF SCHOOL for students
8th & 9th December (M & T) ——— Yr 10 Geography Excursion

2015 SCHOOL YEAR START DATES

Years 7, 11 & 12—Wednesday 28th January 2015
Years 8, 9 & 10 — Thursday 29th January 2015
Debating Team off to Sydney for State Championship

Glen Innes High School’s year 7 & 8 debating team has had some success in the Premier’s Debating Competition. On Thursday October 30, they debated Inverell. The team comprised of Jacky Wu as first speaker, Lachlan Cooke as second speaker, Eleanor Malone as third speaker and Finn John Knox Gray Evans as team advisor. The topic of the debate was that ‘we should ban combat sports’ Glen Innes was the negative side and beat Inverell. Thank you to Jenny Sloman and Sandy Fitzgerald for volunteering their time to adjudicate for us.

On Friday October 1st, Glen Innes travelled to Armidale for the zone final. Due to the cricket, the team was slightly changed with Liam Muckenschnabel as first speaker, Lachlan Cooke as second speaker, Eleanor Malone as third speaker and Kate Newsome as team advisor. The topic of the debate was that ‘we should legalise euthanasia’. Glen Innes was the affirmative and debated that this should be so for terminally ill adults in a hospice with the family and doctor’s consent. This was a difficult topic for 13 and 14 year old students yet they did very well. Glen Innes won and now continues to the regional final in Tamworth. We wish them the best.

This year 413 teams entered the Premiers debating Challenge for years 7 & 8. On Tuesday November 11, Glen Innes won the right to represent the New England and has now been invited as one of ten teams each representing their region to attend the State Championships. This extraordinary feat was achieved by Jacky Wu as first speaker, Lachlan Cooke as second speaker, Eleanor Malone as third speaker and Finn John Knox Gray Evans as team advisor.

The team travelled to Duval in Armidale as a halfway point for the regional final against Oxley High School from Tamworth. The topic of the debate was that ‘Australia should be less reliant on China for trade’. We were the negative team and although we really did not know too much about this topic, we assured the audience that there was no need to stop Kmart from stocking imported items from China. The students and their coach, Mrs Malone, are very excited about the prospect of the Sydney trip and the five debates that they will have to complete while there. We are also proud to be one of the ten teams left from an initial pool of 413 in NSW. Thank you to the community in advance for helping us by buying chocolates which will help to defray costs and many thanks to Mr John Usher for his kind financial support.

Year 9 Report

Another year has passed and it has been a busy one for Yr 9. We have had students achieve significantly academically, culturally and socially. Tom MacCansh and Lachlan Martin represented us at The State Drama Ensemble, Matthew Campion ran for GIHS and Australia in USA, and Katie Miller performed at Dance Festival. The Ag. students went to EKKA in Brisbane and many a show in the region, other students performed at C.A.P.A. Some represented the school in the Science and Engineering Challenge and Yr 9 gained too many sporting achievements to mention them all here. All in all it has been a great year for our Year group and we are very proud of everything they are achieving.

Currently Yr 9 are fundraising for their excursion to the Snow next year. We are hoping to run it in early August will have the information packs ready for the start of the 2015 school year. A big shout out to Wade Russell and Aiden Kaiser who have been selling chocolates like mad. We will recommence fundraising at the start of next year so be ready to sell or buy some chocolates please.

Next year our year group becomes Yr 10 and will be completing their R.O.S.A. and junior schooling. My how time flies! Again, well done on all the achievements this year. We would like to wish you and all your families a happy, safe and relaxing holiday. We are looking forward to more great things next year.

Abi Sparks and Genevieve Byrne
Year Advisers
Principal’s Message

Welcome once again to our Newsletter. This is the final newsletter for 2014.

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year
My best wishes to everyone for a safe, happy and refreshing Christmas and New Year break.

Positive Behaviour For Learning GOLD Club
There will be a special assembly followed by a morning tea for parents at 10.05am on December 5th. This is for students who have earned 1000 vivo points or more during the year for their great work.

Presentation Day
Presentation Day is Thursday 11th December at 10 am in the Town Hall. At the conclusion of the ceremony students will return to school where reports will be presented.

Dux Assembly
The Dux Assembly for students who have done well in the HSC examinations will be on Friday 6th February 2015 beginning at 12.20pm.

Parents and Citizens Association
This very important association has a new executive structure and will be operating fully in 2015. The P&C needs members. The association meets every first Tuesday of the month at the New England Club at 7pm. The next meeting is on the 2nd December.

Record of School Achievement (ROSA)
From 2012, eligible students who leave school before receiving their Higher School Certificate will receive the NSW Record of School Achievement (RoSA).

The ROSA is a cumulative credential – recognising all of a Year 10 students’ academic achievements. Instead of just showing what a students’ results were at the end of Year 10, the RoSA recognises that many students who leave school before completing their HSC complete some Year 11 courses. The RoSA will show Year 10 grades, as well as any grades for Year 11 (Preliminary) courses completed after that. If a student starts a course but leaves school before completing it, the RoSA will show evidence of that enrolment. The RoSA will also show results of any VET or Life Skills courses a student completes in Year 10 and/or Year 11.

The RoSA will be awarded to all eligible students when they leave school. If a student transfers from one school to another at the end of Year 10 they will not receive a formal RoSA credential at that time. To receive a RoSA a student will need to meet the school’s attendance requirements. Students are able to request a RoSA through the school when they talk to their principal about leaving. If a student has completed any Life Skills courses they will receive their Life Skills Profile of Student Achievement at the same time as their RoSA.

First Day Back Next Year
The first day back for students in 2015 is Wednesday January 28th for Years 7, 11, 12 with the remainder of the school (Yrs 8,9,10) to attend on Thursday January 29th.

Attendance and the Change to the School Leaving Age
Please note that ALL year 10 students are required to attend school until December 17th unless they are entering fulltime employment or full time education through another provider.

All parents need to be aware that the new school leaving age is 17. This means that students must remain at school until they turn 17 unless they are in full time education elsewhere such as TAFE or they have moved into full time work (at least 25 hours per week) or they have an apprenticeship. Students can leave at the end of year 10 for fulltime work or an apprenticeship. This legislated change applies to all students.

I would ask all parents to send a note explaining absences as soon as possible after the absence to the school. Please note that parents cannot sign students out of school unless there is a legitimate reason. For example, you cannot give your student a note that says please excuse her/him on Wednesday afternoons because they do not want to do sport.

It has also been legislated that parents are contacted about absences as soon as possible after the absence. We also have to contact parents when attendance falls below 85%. Even if absences have been explained it is still possible that you may receive a letter. Please be patient with these new procedures.

We are exploring an SMS option which may begin next term.

The Legislation clearly states that students are to be in attendance at school five days a week unless given an exemption by the Principal. Students cannot sign out to work on Wednesday afternoons, for example. This is in breach of the Legislation.

Issues
I always welcome suggestions or concerns from parents – if you have any then please contact me directly at the school.

“Since the final quarter of the 20th century, the consequences in all developed nations of a student not succeeding in school have become increasingly grim. The practical import of this shift in the labour market is that failure to succeed in secondary education, which once bore only modest individual and societal costs, now results in unacceptable costs for both individuals and larger societies. Anything less than educational success for virtually all citizens has become so expensive that neither individuals nor societies can afford failure.”

Schaffer, Reynolds, and Stringfield

Mike Gray
Term 4 Focus Area
The PBL (Positive Behaviour for Learning) focus area this term has been “wearing the correct uniform”. Students have been getting VIVO points for wearing their correct school uniform each day. We are very pleased with the improved compliance with the uniform code by all students at GIHS, and commend the juniors in particular.

Assembly Certificates
As part of our awards system for showing Respect, Responsibility and Diligence, PBL certificates are being awarded to two students from each year group (7-10) at assembly each week. These certificates give students a credit at the canteen and these prizes have been well received. Thank you goes to Mrs Kay Arthur and the canteen for this kind sponsorship of our PBL program.

Special Awards Assembly and Morning Tea.
Our final PBL event for the year is a special assembly and morning tea for Gold Club members. These are students who have been awarded over 1000 VIVO points during the year, demonstrating their commitment to the Glen Innes High School Values of Respect, Responsibility & Diligence.

Students, parents and carers will be invited to attend a special awards ceremony at 10am on Friday December 5th in the New Hall (Gym) to receive the Gold Award and attend a special morning tea in the Old Hall with the Senior School Executive and the Positive Behaviour for Learning Team following the ceremony. This rewards the excellent behaviour and habits of many of our students.

2015
Next year our PBL program will start with a refresher on all of the PBL focus areas covered since inception and offer a thorough introduction for new students. Stay tuned for the many exciting prizes and events that our students who are rewarded through the VIVO system can access.

We look forward to seeing more positive changes in the school in 2015 around key areas of behaviour.

Brand New Lockers for ALL students
Recently, the school has purchased lockers for students. There is a $15 deposit to be paid at the Front Office to obtain a locker but the full amount is refundable if the student decides that the locker is no longer needed. All the lockers are secured with individual keys that will be issued to the student upon payment and there is a charge of $5 for a lost key. Students from Year 7 to Year 12 are encouraged to use the lockers.
An amazing exhibition of GIHS visual arts student work

Featuring HSC 2014

Opening Night  Friday 12th Dec 6pm
Open Saturday 13th 10-4pm

at Glen Innes Art Gallery (Library)