Griffith High School Newsletter

Excellence, Opportunity and Care
A proud partner in the Griffith Community of Schools
Coolah Street, Griffith NSW 2680
Telephone: (02) 6962 1711 Facsimile: (02) 6964 1465 Facebook: www.facebook.com/GriffithHighSchool
Email: griffith-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au Web: www.griffith-h.schools.nsw.edu.au

Griffith High School Newsletter

Griffith High School believes in the values of Respect, Responsibility, Resilience, Right Choice and the Pursuit of Excellence.

NAPLAN testing

Years 7 and 9
Next week
13th May to 16th May

There will be a free barbeque breakfast available for all participating students from 8.30am in the quadrangle.

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<th>Tuesday 13th May 9am start</th>
<th>Wednesday 14th May 9am start</th>
<th>Thursday 15th May 9am start</th>
<th>Friday 16th May 9am start</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>Language Conventions (45 minutes)</td>
<td>Reading (65 minutes)</td>
<td>Numeracy Non-Calculator (40 minutes)</td>
<td>Catch up for absent students</td>
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<td></td>
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ANZAC Day participation

A cheerful group of Griffith High students joined other high school students to lay white crosses with an attached poppy on the graves of 1002 ex-service men and women at the Griffith cemetery on Tuesday the 22nd of April.

The Griffith RSL would like to thank students who gave up some of their school holiday time so that others on ANZAC day were able to identify the graves of the ex-service men and women and lay a flower and some rosemary on all 1002 graves.

Special mention to Kayla and Jenna Oakes who returned on Friday to place flowers and rosemary on the graves.

Why Rosemary? Rosemary is the flower of remembrance.

The Greeks thought that rosemary was good for the memory. Greek scholars reputedly put rosemary in their hair to learn more effectively, and so among many other things it has become the herb of remembrance. For Australians and New Zealanders, the remembrance it signifies is the loss of life during World War One.

Students who helped were:
- Shaquel Crowe
- Kayla Oakes
- Teagan Cirillo
- Merve Ayhan
- Georgia Campbell

HSIE Report

2014 begins an exciting time with the first stage of implementation of the National Curriculum - History. This year, both Year 7 and Year 9 have begun to study topics in the new curriculum. Many of the topics are very similar to previous ones studied, with a continued emphasis on Australian History, this includes “Australia in WW1” and “What is History?” At GHS we are committed to exposing all students to a range of topics with the opportunity for smaller classes in HSIE. In Years 8 and 9, History and Geography, which used to be taught together, have been separated into two separate subjects to allow for smaller classes with targeted literacy strategies, suited to each individual class.

A new member of staff, Mr Kieran Drabsch, has been appointed to our HSIE department to replace Miss Melissa Farr who transferred to Hawkesbury High School at the end of 2013. Kieran is a permanent appointment, specialising in Ancient History, Modern History and Geography 7-12. His previous school was Southern Cross K-12 in Ballina on the NSW North Coast. Kieran has taught both senior Ancient and Modern History and achieved positive results with his senior students. Kieran is currently completing his Masters in educational leadership, which he hopes to finish mid-2015.

Kieran grew up in Sydney’s Northwest suburbs and completed his university studies at Macquarie University. He has a passion for sport, especially cricket, soccer and rugby league; his teams are the Western Sydney Wanderers and Parramatta Eels.

As a passionate supporter of Public Education, Kieran is committed to delivering engaging, academic lessons which meet the needs of students. Kieran is looking forward to becoming a long term member of the Griffith High School community.

Venessa Horne
Acting Head Teacher HSIE

P & C Meeting
Tonight @ 6.30 pm
Thursday, May 9th
Everyone very welcome

The canteen would like to remind all staff and students that their winter pie range is now available. Also available on Wednesdays are hot cheese and ham rolls for $3.50.

The library has recently undergone a face lift with the addition of colourful floor mats, and a new soft seating area, complete with comfortable lounges and ottomans.

David and his team have also recently completed a permanent ANZAC memorial to commemorate the 100 year anniversary of the Gallipoli landing in 2015. The library has again become a vibrant teaching and learning space.

There has been many staff changes in the library this term. We bid a fond farewell to Acting Librarian David Fox and Library Assistant Nicole Virago. We also welcome the new Teacher Librarian Fiona Painting and, in their new roles as Library Assistants, Danielle Duncan, Jo Irvin and Janice Moore. The lovely Linda White will be continuing in her role as coordinator of the accelerated reader program. We look forward to seeing the staff and students enjoying the facilities the library has to offer.

Fiona Painting
Teacher Librarian

Community Announcements

Kindyland preschool is turning 60!

To celebrate, the kindergarten is holding an open day on Saturday the 31st of May from 10am to 3pm.

Come and share the fun.

This is a great opportunity for children, staff and businesses who have associated with the preschool and of course past, present and future families to come and experience our beautiful preschool and see all we have to offer to our community and share the celebrations.

Photography by Garry Bazzacco

Garry Bazzacco has spent many hours taking promotional photos of our amazing facilities, sporting events and grounds.

We would like to thank Garry and acknowledge his generous contribution to GHS.

www.garrybazzacco.com