



# Gunnedah Public School

## Quality Education in a Caring Environment

**Newsletter**  
Term 4 - Week 7  
Tuesday, 16 November 2021

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Principal: Mrs Cathie McMaster

### Class Corner - 6H

Term 4 is well underway and we have been busy in 6H over the term. With the weeks and days dwindling down until the end of the year, the reality of leaving primary school and heading into high school is starting to sink in. With this in mind, as a class, we have been focusing on respect, teamwork and collaboration. Developing and practicing this through problem solving games and class activities has been a positive experience for everyone and will continue into the later parts of the term.

Over the last couple of weeks in Maths, we have been focusing on fractions, decimals and percentages, where we were learning how to add, subtract, divide and multiply decimals and find percentages of amounts in practical situations. In one of the lessons, we all went shopping (hypothetically), where the students were given a budget to 'purchase' food items for their lunchboxes for the week.



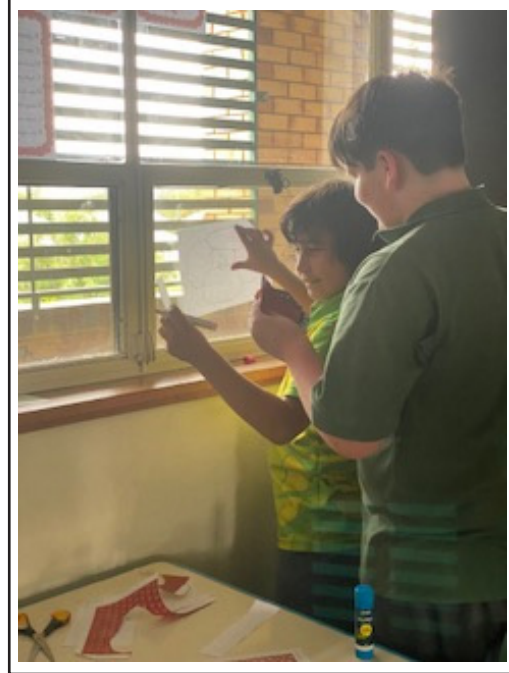
**THURSDAY**  
**CANTEEN DAY**

Chicken Wrap with popper or water

## Class Corner - 6H

### English focus

In English, students have been utilising their research skills to work through primary and secondary sources to find information and write an informative text about a well-known person they have chosen to study. As part of this, in conjunction with Remembrance Day, 6H was lucky enough to have a guest speaker talk to them; Historian, Allan Miles. He came in and spoke about his past travels and his involvement with research his team has done in relation to late Annie Egan, a WW1 nurse, who used to live in Gunnedah. After this, the students completed a poppy mosaic for Remembrance Day.



### ***6H: A year (so far) in review....***

Gemma: I enjoy the challenge in some math questions.

Amia: The year has been like a rollercoaster, one second you were happy and laughing in the classroom with friends, and then the next second, you're in home learning again.

Allyra: I enjoy reading my book.

Rhiannon: I enjoyed reaching PBL reward days. Ninja Warrior was my Favourite!

Ashlee: I have enjoyed Year 6.

Sarah: I have enjoyed being a School Captain and having the opportunity to go away for a leadership camp.

Issabella: I have enjoyed making new friends.

Se-annah: I have enjoyed the opportunity to be a School Captain.

Charlie: I have enjoyed participating in sport this year and representing the school at Touch Football.

Nash: It has been good to have friends and good company to work with.

Torsten: I have loved having the new laptops to use.

Masen: I have enjoyed the transition days at the High School.

Cohen: I have enjoyed inside play.

Jorden: I really enjoyed going to the AECG camp.

## Annie Egan Memorial

Annie Egan was a World War 1 nurse from Gunnedah and a former Gunnedah Public School student.

She was working at the hospital in Manly when she contracted the Spanish Flu from soldiers returning from The Front. Annie passed away three days later.

Allan Miles (pictured) works for an organisation that researches and pays tribute to unsung heroes, such as Annie Egan.

Allan contacted the school last year and asked if a student would like to be involved in the memorial service to unveil a plaque dedicated to Annie. This unveiling occurred on the weekend and our school captain Sarah McInerney recited the iconic Dorothea MacKellar poem, My Country, as part of the ceremony.

Sarah did a fine job of representing Gunnedah Public School, not just once, but twice, over the weekend at two separate memorials.

The school would like to thank Sarah and her parents for agreeing to be part of this important event.

In addition to organising the weekend's memorial services, Allan also agreed to come in and talk to our Year 6 class. Year 6 has been researching to create their own biographies on a person of their choosing. Allan was able to talk about how and why he and his organisation do what they do when preparing to memorialise a person.

A big thanks to Allan for taking the time from his busy schedule to share his own story with our students.



## Culture

Mrs Robinson enjoys getting in to the classrooms to work with students. Last week, she visited KM and worked with the students on many different activities.



## Library News

Thank you to all students who are borrowing and returning their library books on time. During Covid, we realise that books may have been misplaced or overlooked.

As we are stocktaking very soon, we would appreciate if any overdue book be returned to the library as soon as possible.

Overdue notices will be sent out this week with a minimal fee for a replacement. Books would all be covered in plastic and have a Gunnedah Public School barcode on the front or inside the back cover.

A prize will be drawn each week for a lucky student who returns their books.

Thank you all for your support with this matter .



## The Miracle

by *Lucus Matthews*

In 1914 there was an event, an event we would never forget.

The blood from the soldiers gave birth to a miracle, a red flower, the poppy.

Many soldiers, ours or not, went down in the battle.

From the rattle of the deserts to the waves of the ocean, 4 years of pure terror.

The trenches, the bombs, they would never be the same.

Some lied to save our country, the underage.

The women wanted to prove anyone could be the same.

No matter what, though our country would stay, a lot of people went down into the forever lay.

Now I must say  
"Lest we forget"

## Leadership Speeches for 2022

Year 5 candidates have spent some time chatting to this year's Captains to get a feel of what it is like to be a leader in the school. They have been busily preparing their speeches to convince their peers and staff why they feel they should be voted in as next year's School Captains. They will present their speeches this Thursday in the hall in two separate sessions (one for infants, one for primary due to COVID restrictions).

Students and staff will vote immediately after hearing the speeches.

The four students with the most votes will be next year's captains, however, we will all need to wait until Presentation Day to find out who they are!

We wish them all the best.



# PBL

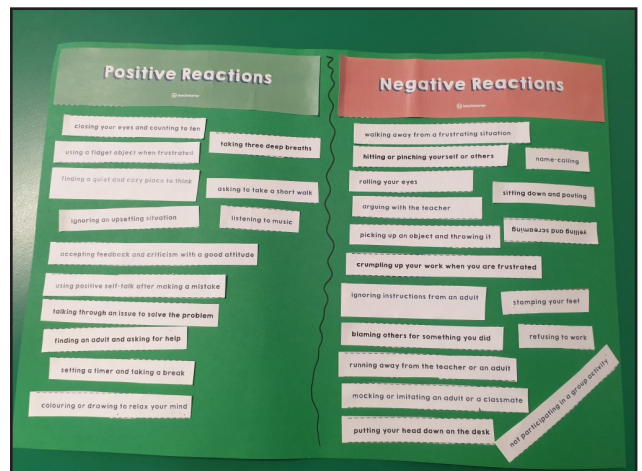
Last week, in our PBL lessons our focus was 'Reasonable Reactions'.

## Positive Behaviour for Learning

Term 4, Week 6

Focus – Reasonable Reactions

We are learning to identify reasonable reactions when we are feeling happy, sad, angry or frustrated.



### Positive Reactions

- closing your eyes and counting to ten
- using a fidget object when frustrated
- finding a quiet and cozy place to think
- ignoring an upsetting situation
- accepting feedback and criticism with a good attitude
- using positive self-talk after making a mistake
- talking through an issue to solve the problem
- telling an adult and asking for help
- setting a timer and taking a break
- colouring or drawing to relax your mind

### Negative Reactions

- walking away from a frustrating situation
- hitting or pinching yourself or others
- rolling your eyes
- arguing with the teacher
- picking up an object and throwing it
- crumpling up your work when you are frustrated
- ignoring instructions from an adult
- blaming others for something you did
- running away from the teacher or an adult
- mocking or imitating an adult or a classmate
- putting your head down on the desk
- home calling
- sitting down and pouting
- swearing and bad mouthing
- stomping your feet
- refusing to work
- not participating in a group activity

*Dear Parents/Carers,*

### **School Zones**

Below is an email from Gunnedah Shire Council in regards to all the signage around the schools and town itself. Please read this carefully as council and police are cracking down on anyone not obeying the signage. In addition to this, you will be booked if you are sitting at the entrance to the cul-de-sac. This is not only illegal, but is so very dangerous with the amount of traffic now on Bloomfield Street. Staff will only let your children out the sandpit gate when your car is round to the driveway, so please keep moving around and remember that infants are let out at 2:50pm and primary do not leave until 3pm. Please time your pick up appropriately to reduce congestion.

If you are running late/picking up early DO NOT park outside the office on Bloomfield street before 9:30am or after 2:30pm or you will be booked.

This is all for the safety of our students.

### **DET Term 4 roadmap**

In this newsletter, you will find the current guidelines being followed by our school.

### **Breakfast Club**

Breakfast Club started again yesterday and will run every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8:30am -9:00am. Thanks to our wonderful volunteers from the Rotary Club. Breakfast club will be run out of the canteen windows and infants and primary cohorts will continue to be separated. If you would like your child have breakfast, please ensure they are at school between 8:30am and 9:00am. There will be toast and milo on offer.

### **Presentation Day**

Unfortunately, we are still unable to have parents and community attend our presentation day, but will ensure through our social media that everyone has the opportunity to watch the proceedings of the day.

*Cathie McMaster, Principal*

### ***Email from Gunnedah Public School***

Dear Principals and Teaching Faculties,

Approaching the end of the school year and with the resuming of “normal” school hours and activities post Covid-19 measures, it is timely to remind staff and parents/carers of their obligations to park safely and legally around schools. Council has noted an increase in illegal parking behaviours before and after school. Penalties do apply for parking offences and some carry demerit point deductions. Some parking offences in a school zone carry a \$464 penalty and 2 demerit points.

Through your social media and newsletters, it would be appreciated if you could encourage parents and carers to obey the signposted parking regulations around your school, and remind them that Council and Police do conduct parking patrols and will issue penalty notices for any parking offence detected.

The following link can be used for reference material and to include in your posts or newsletters:  
<https://www.nsw.gov.au/topics/roads-safety-and-rules/parking/parking-rules>

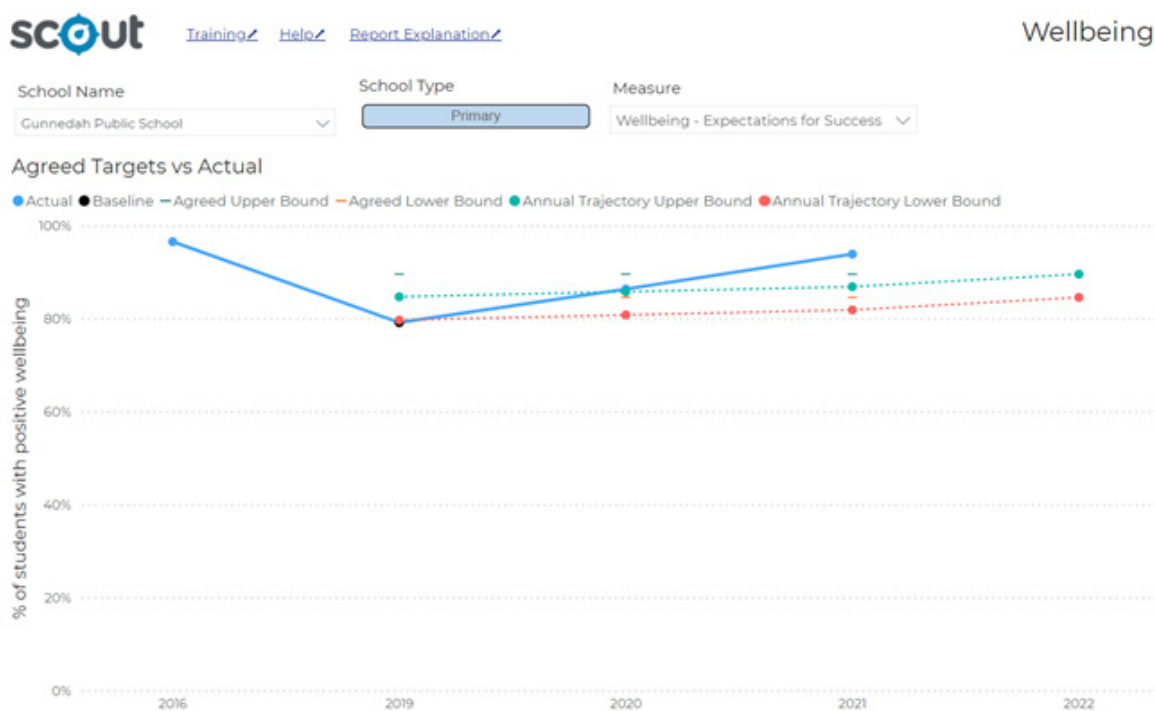
### **HEAD LICE**

Please treat your child's hair regularly.  
Treating hair regularly by all families is the most effective way to reduce the spread.

## School Success & Direction

Every year, we survey students in regards to wellbeing. This is to ensure that all students are known, valued and cared for. We have worked hard on encouraging and supporting students to believe that they can achieve. Through learning goals and personal goals, as well as discussions about future learning, over 93% of our students have high expectations for success.

Having a positive mindset about what you can achieve is the best possible way to ensure you do.



## FROM THE OFFICE....

Phone - (02) 6742 2266

### Raffle Tickets from our P&C

Raffle tickets for the P&C's Christmas Hamper raffle were sent home last week. Tickets are \$1 and sold/unsold tickets need to be **returned by Monday, 6 December** and will be drawn at our Presentation Day on Wednesday, 8 December. More tickets are available from the office when you bring your sold tickets and money back to the office.

## SCHOOL MOBILE NUMBERS

**For all COVID test results -  
0472 620 978**

### For contacting the school anytime

- 0472 662 698
- 0472 620 978
- 0472 660 730
- 0472 638 567

Please feel free to save any of these numbers into your phone.

## Merit Awards



## PBL Awards



## Opportunity Class Placement Test

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Opportunity Class Placement Test will be held at our school on the morning of Wednesday 17 November 2021.

The parents/carers of students who are able to sit the test should have received by email a 'test authority' letter which students are required to bring as a printed copy on the day of the test.

Go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/selective-high-schools-and-opportunity-classes/year-5> to find the 'test information for parents and students' bulletin which contains very important information about the test, including how to access the familiarisation test. This bulletin should be read carefully.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school.

Thank you.



# Term 4 roadmap

## From 8 November

- All schools will operate on updated Level 3 settings for the rest of Term 4.
- School sports allowed
- Inter-school sports allowed outside of school hours
- Assemblies and presentations allowed outdoors on-site
- Excursions allowed outdoors
- Dancing and some music classes allowed
- Fully vaccinated visitors allowed on site to support curriculum delivery, wellbeing programs and school operations
- Community use allowed (including P&C meetings)

## From Term 1 2022

We can look forward to more freedoms as schools return in 2022.

# Keeping us all safe

A combination of **layered safety measures** allow us to prioritise student and staff wellness while we keep schools open.

## Stay home if unwell

- Do not attend or participate if unwell, even with mild symptoms.



## Vaccinations required

- All adults must be fully vaccinated.



## Always check in

- All staff and visitors must check in when attending a school site or gathering.



## Wear masks indoors

- Masks are required indoors for all staff, visitors and students in Year 7 or above, and strongly recommended indoors for primary students.
- You can take your mask off when eating or exercising.



## Physically distance

- Maintain 1.5 metres physical distancing wherever practicable.



## Maximise ventilation

- Activities and events should be held outdoors where practicable.
- Indoor spaces will be well ventilated and as large as possible for the number of attendees.



## Stick to your cohorts

- Avoid mingling with other groups when moving around the school.





# Gunnedah Public School



Dear Parents/Carers

On 24 October 2021, the Treasurer and Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning, the Hon. Sarah Mitchell MLC, that school banking programs will no longer be run in New South Wales schools from 2022.

School banking programs at GPS are arranged at a local level via the schools' P&C Association. With the upcoming cessation of the program, students will no longer be able to deposit savings through the school banking program at GPS. You can still keep your child's bank account open and can continue to make deposits into your child's accounts through online transfer or at any bank branch. More information are available on the department's [school banking website](#) and Commonwealth Bank of Australia's [school banking website](#).

The decision was made following the review of the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) review on School Banking on 15 December 2020, which found that the costs of the program outweighed the benefits.

Key findings of the review include:

- School banking programs claim to help children develop long term saving habits; however, providers were unable to demonstrate that these programs in and of themselves improve savings behaviour;
- Payments to schools for implementing school banking programs incentivise schools to encourage greater participation in the programs;
- Young children are vulnerable consumers and are exposed to sophisticated advertising and marketing tactics by school banking program providers;
- School banking program providers fail to effectively disclose that a strategic objective of these programs is customer acquisition.

Financial literacy is embedded in the curriculum K-10. It is part of a continuum of learning in the *work and enterprise* learning across the curriculum content area from K-12. In Mathematics K-10, students develop knowledge, understanding and skills specifically related to financial literacy, such as money, financial transactions, pay rates, taxable income, rebates and levies. In Stages 4 and 5 many students elect to study commerce. A key objective of the Years 7-10 commerce syllabus is for students to develop skills in decision-making and problem-solving in relation to consumer and financial issues they may encounter now and in the future. Opportunities also exist for the inclusion of financial literacy in the mandatory Life Ready course in Stage 6. More [information on the NSW Curriculum](#) is available.

To further support our students with financial literacy education, the department launched the [Treasurer's Financial Literacy Challenge](#) in collaboration with ASIC. The challenge is currently in pilot intended for students in Years 5 to 8 but open to all. The challenge aims to engage students in practical activities focused on making informed financial choices, setting goals and managing money.

If you have further questions, please feel free to contact the school on [details of the contact person at the school].

Kind Regards

Cathie McMaster, Principal



# Gunnedah Public School

## 2021 School Calendar Term 4

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Week 7</b>	15/11	16/11	17/11 Opportunity Class Placement Test (for Year 7, 2023)	18/11 <b>CANTEEN DAY</b> <i>(Chicken wrap with popper or water)</i>	19/11
<b>Week 8</b>	22/11 5.30pm P&C meeting	23/11 GHS Orientation Day for Year 7 2022	24/11	25/11 <b>CANTEEN DAY</b> <i>(Beef Nachos &amp; sour cream with popper or water)</i>	26/11
<b>Week 9</b>	29/11	30/11	1/12	2/12 <b>CANTEEN DAY</b> <i>(Pizza Rolls with popper or water)</i>	3/12
<b>Week 10</b>	6/12	7/12	8/12 Presentation Day	9/12 <b>CANTEEN DAY</b> <i>(Meat pies with popper or water)</i>	10/12
<b>Week 11</b>	13/12 Year 6 Farewell	14/12	15/12	16/12 <b>LAST DAY OF TERM 4 FOR STUDENTS</b>	17/12 <b>STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY</b>

### **Nutrition Snippet**

#### FRIDAY NIGHT FAKEAWAYS.



**Our 'fakeaways' are good for health and for the wallet!**

- [Easy pizza](#) - you have to try this recipe to believe how easy it is!
- [Mixed salad](#) - make the meal complete with this simple salad

 3.5 of your 5 veg serves!

For these recipes and more visit:

[healthylunchbox.com.au](http://healthylunchbox.com.au)



**Cancer Council**  
Healthy Lunch Box