**Gunnedah South Public School**

“With oar and sail”

**Principal:** Mrs Emma Jeffery  
**Assistant Principals:** Mr William Dowe  
**Deputy Principal:** Mr Graham Conn  
**School Captains:** Lucy Jackson and Zachary Griffin  
**Administration Manager:** Mrs Kerryn Pryor  
**Mrs Judy McGowan**  
**Mrs Nicole Walsh**

**Phone:** 6742 1899 / 6742 1488  
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**Email:** gunnedahs-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au  
**Website:** www.gunnedahs-p.schools.nsw.edu.au

**Special points of interest:**
- Mothers Day Stall 7th May
- Book Fair 15th-20th May

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Week</th>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
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<tr>
<td>3 May</td>
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<td>Mothers Day Stall</td>
<td>Curlewis Horse Sports</td>
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<td>4 May</td>
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<td>12</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Zone Rugby Union Trials</td>
<td>Zone Netball GPS</td>
<td>Northwest Touch Boys &amp; Girls Trials</td>
<td>Bookfair Starts</td>
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<td>5 May</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Southern Rugby Union Trials</td>
<td>Bookfair Finishes</td>
<td>Southern Netball Trials</td>
<td>Music Eisteddfod 21st-23rd May</td>
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<td>6 May</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Future Leaders Course-Captains and Prefects</td>
<td>Speech &amp; Drama Eisteddfod 25th-28th May</td>
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<td>Northwest Rugby Union &amp; Netball Trials</td>
<td>Gunnedah Eisteddfod- Instruments</td>
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Dear Parents and Carers,

**Winter Uniform**
The official date all students must be wearing winter uniform is Monday 11th May.

**NAPLAN**
Next week our students in year 3 & 5 will sit the NAPLAN tests from 12th May-14th May.
The National Assessment Program – Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is an annual assessment for students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9. It has been an everyday part of the school calendar since 2008. It is important to remember that NAPLAN tests are not pass/fail tests. At the classroom level it is one of a number of important tools used by teachers to measure student progress.

NAPLAN tests skills in literacy and numeracy that are developed over time through the school curriculum. Schools will receive NAPLAN reports for their students from around mid-September, and parents will receive a comprehensive NAPLAN student report for their child.

The best ways parents can help support their children in NAPLAN are:

- Ensure they have regular attendance at school (from K-12)
- A good nights sleep. (Research indicates the growing brain requires at least 10 hours sleep)
- A healthy nutritious breakfast.

**School Plan**
The School Plan 2015-2017 outlines our 3 strategic directions ~ **Learning, Leading and Linking.**

Our strategic directions:

- Define the key improvements which combine for the school to achieve excellence
- Represent a high level and future focused educational priority which is evidence based and data informed.
- Are a succinct statement that drives the development of the school’s educational and organisational leadership culture
- Make explicit links to the dimension of the school excellence framework.

The full school plan document can be downloaded from our website from next Monday.

**Kitchen Classes**
The Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program is well under way for Term 2. I have visited a number of cooking classes to witness the students deep in learning new cooking skills and knowledge. I have also been very fortunate to have some classes bring a plate of delicious cooking to my office ~ very impressive. Thank you to our parents who volunteer in our kitchen and garden classes, this not only ensures we can continue to operate these great programs but allows the students extra support.

**Parent volunteers**
Parent volunteers are always welcome at Gunnedah South Public School. If you are able to help in a classroom, kitchen, garden, canteen or library please come in and chat to the class teacher. Students enjoy having parents or family in the school to see their achievements and be apart of their progress.

**Road Safety Reminder**
The best way to protect your children near traffic is to hold their hands. Young children do not make effective use of their hearing and vision, and lack the skills to make safe decisions when in the road traffic environment.

More tips at www.kidsandtraffic.mq.edu.au
A few words from our Principal continued...

Just a general reminder to all parents and carers who drop off and collect students at school. Please make sure you walk students across the road and that they use the designated school crossings. With over 600 students who attend Gunnedah South, from 8:30-9am and 3-3:30pm are extremely busy times, with buses, cars, bikes, scooters and pedestrians all making their way to and from school.

Lets all work together to keep our children safe.

Asthma
As the weather is turning cold it is playing havoc with some of our asthmatic's. If your child suffers from Asthma please make sure that they have their asthma medication on them at all times, cap is covering the spray, and that the medication is in date. This leads me to my next comment.

Contact details
I urge all parents to check that their contact details are accurate and up to date and with 2 contact details for other family or friends that may need to be contacted in the case of an emergency.

P&C meeting
The next P&C meeting is on next Tuesday 12th May @ 7pm in our kitchen. All parents and carers are encouraged and welcomed to attend.

AECG Meeting
The next AECG meeting is on Thursday 7th May @ 4pm and will be held at Gunnedah South Public School. These meetings are rotated around schools and is a great way to see the wonderful opportunities and innovative programs on offer to the students in the Gunnedah district.

Happy Mothers Day to all our Mums and Nan's.

Kindest Regards
Emma Jeffery
Principal
Year Six Excursion

We encourage families to start making regular payments for the Year Six Excursion to Sydney. The $150 non-refundable deposit is due immediately.

Also, a further $50 payment by Friday 22nd May is encouraged.

If there are any issues with regards to the excursion please contact Miss Flannery.
To The Teachers and Students,

I would like to say a personal thank you, for taking part in “Echoes from the Trenches”.

I would also like to congratulate the children on being so well behaved, it was greatly appreciated.

Maggie Denman
Cross Country Results 2015

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>5/6 Boys</th>
<th>5/6 Girls</th>
<th>7 Boys</th>
<th>7 Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Hayden Sawyer</td>
<td>Amarni Louis</td>
<td>Harry Rhyman</td>
<td>Charlotte McDonald</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Oliver Shoesmith</td>
<td>Aleisha Doolan</td>
<td>Cameron Griffin</td>
<td>Laura Demmery</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Cooper Oneil</td>
<td>Sophie West</td>
<td>Angus Eather</td>
<td>Emmy Torrens</td>
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Congratulations to the students below, they have qualified for the Zone Cross Country Championships in Mullaley on the 5th June 2015. Please bring notes and money back to Miss Hickey ASPA!

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<tr>
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<th>8/9 Boys</th>
<th>8/9 Girls</th>
<th>10 Boys</th>
<th>10 Girls</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Finnegan Leader 8.47</td>
<td>Daisy White 10.09</td>
<td>Toby Randall 9.43</td>
<td>Zoe Eather 9.53</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Jake Atkins 9.05</td>
<td>Lilly Sankey 10.11</td>
<td>Logan Ross 9.50</td>
<td>Becky Wilson 10.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Chad Fisher 9.07</td>
<td>Bella Sawyer 10.19</td>
<td>Jack Mackay 9.52</td>
<td>Lucy Robertson 11.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Toby Verdon 9.13</td>
<td>Stella Robertson 10.25</td>
<td>Toby Bartlett 10.00</td>
<td>Brianna Cope 11.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Bailey Crowe 9.34</td>
<td>Charlotte Bedgood 10.42</td>
<td>Wesley Dundas 10.30</td>
<td>Aleah Riley 11.09</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Mason Lewis</td>
<td>Jessica Ferguson 10.45</td>
<td>Heath Stark 10.50</td>
<td>Olivia Guest 11.22</td>
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<th>11 Boys</th>
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<th>12/13 Boys</th>
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<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Kurt Fisher 13.27</td>
<td>Mackenzie Leader 14.18</td>
<td>Zac Clarke 11.54</td>
<td>Chelsea Storey 14.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Zeb Dillion 14.11</td>
<td>Charley Atkins 15.22</td>
<td>Ashton Harris 13.01</td>
<td>Sophie Mackay 15.37</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Bastian Short 14.50</td>
<td>Dakota Milne 15.32</td>
<td>Zac Griffin 13.20</td>
<td>Angela Dillon 17.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Jarrod Ferguson 15.01</td>
<td>Moira Morgan 17.05</td>
<td>Lane Phillips 15.04</td>
<td>Madilyn Jessup– Little 17.33</td>
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<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Kade Garrett 15.02</td>
<td>Annie Lyon 17.05</td>
<td>Dale Keenan 15.04</td>
<td>Matilda Betts 17.46</td>
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New Records
Canteen Roster

Volunteers are needed for term 2.

If you are interested in helping in the Canteen please contact Sharon Tydd or leave a message with the office.

Library News

Book Fair is back!
Our first Scholastic Book Fair will be held from Friday, 15th May to Wednesday 20th May. The fair will be open from 8:30 each morning and open again after school until 3:30. If there are any parents that would like to spare some time to help out before school selling books could you please come and see me. Any help would be greatly appreciated as it gets so busy during Book Fairs which is fantastic!

Looking for some books your kids might like?
If you’re ever looking for some great books to get your children interested in reading I have a number of good suggestions. Firstly, for the older students funny book authors such as David Walliams and Oliver Phommavanh will be a hit. For the younger students book series such as Boy vs Beast, Hey Jack and Billie B Brown will also be very popular. Miss Hudson.
SUPA Clubs are Christian clubs for kids. They operate in primary schools throughout Australia. At SUPA Club we have fun games, drama, stimulating stories from the Bible, and the occasional treat. Children have the opportunity to investigate some of life's challenging questions.

SUPA Club is held in the Hall each Tuesday at lunchtime with Mrs Sommerlad. Interested Year 5 and Year 6 students are welcome.
On Monday night, stage 3 participated in the second kitchen cook-off for the year. 6 students were chosen from years 5 and 6 and each student were able to choose a sous chef to help them in their endeavour to win this challenge.

The nervous teams were given 5 minutes to read over the recipe of pumpkin curry, then the timer was set for 45 minutes. In this time, each team worked hard to complete their recipe and present their dish to the judges. The end results were fantastic. Many used garnishes from the garden. One team went as far as to add edible flowers to their dish! (They did say Mr Jeffery told them the flowers were edible... lets hope they were right!)

As always, there was only 1 winning team and that team was... Leisel Torrens with her Mum, Anne. Well done ladies.

Our other champion teams were– Connor Anderson and Cameron Anderson, Cooper Bedggood and Jayden Winsor, Hugh McArthur and Bastian Short, Kade Garrett and Kurt Fisher, Drew Shephard and Lucy. Well done to all of our hardworking teams!

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<tr>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Monday - 11/5</th>
<th>Tuesday - 12/5</th>
<th>Wednesday - 13/5</th>
<th>Thursday - 14/5</th>
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<td>Mr Sumpter - Tech</td>
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<td>Mrs Conn - Science</td>
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<td>NAPLAN</td>
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<td>Mrs Michelsen - PD/H/PE</td>
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<td>Miss Small - HSIE</td>
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The *Shell Questacon Science Circus* is not only wonderful for students—it's great for teachers too!

The *Science Circus* currently offers the PD Workshop: 'Hands-On Science Activities to Inspire Students and Teachers'

**When:** 16th & 17th June 2015  
**Cost:** $5.00 per student  
Please return Notes and money to school **by Monday 1st June 2015**

Regards  
Mrs Conn

________________________________________________________________________________________

Questacon Science Circus hands on science activities 16th & 17th June  
Cost $5.00 per student

**Name:** ___________________________ **Class:** ___________________________

**Signed Parent:** ___________________________ **Date:** ___________________________
WOODLAND SPOTLIGHTING NIGHT
IN BLACKJACK FOREST (GUNNEDAH)

WHERE: Blackjack Forest Road (off Boolooocooroo Road)
Time: 5.30pm—10pm (or earlier)
Includes BBQ, Wildlife Talk and Spotlighting
What to bring: Sturdy shoes, torch, water, chair, camera.

Gunnedah Urban Landcare Group is inviting members of the community to join in a guided spotlighting night to explore the night fauna of the Gunnedah area. Enjoy a free BBQ, while renowned Ecologist Phil Spark shows you some interesting fauna that we have in our own backyard.

Event is supported by North West LLS

FRIDAY 8th MAY
5.30pm
REGISTER NOW !!

Registration is essential as numbers are limited.
RSVP by Wednesday 6th May to:
George Truman 0427 505040 or george.truman@bigpond.com
Mark Kesby 0428 429244

BIRDWATCHING MORNING
PORCUPINE LOOKOUT

WHERE: Porcupine Lookout (Apex Rd) Gunnedah
Time: 7.30am—11am
Includes BBQ, Breakfast and Birdwatching.
What to bring: Sturdy shoes, binoculars, camera, water.
We will be joined by members from Tamworth Birdwatchers

Gunnedah Urban Landcare Group is inviting members of the community to join in a guided birdwatching morning with renowned Ornithologist Steve Debus from the University of New England. He will teach you to identify native birds visually and through their calls.

Supported by North West LLS

SUNDAY 17th MAY
7.30am
REGISTER NOW !!

Registration is essential as numbers are limited.
RSVP by Wednesday 13th May to:
George Truman 0427 505040 or george.truman@bigpond.com
Mark Kesby 0428 429244