Welcome back for Term 2 everyone

Term 2 is another busy term as we work towards completing Semester 1 and the first half of the school year. In Week 1, we had our start of term assemblies where we set the scene for this term’s work and we acknowledged the outstanding student achievement during Term 1. This newsletter provides details about all of the students who achieved excellence in their work during Term 1.

It was wonderful to see so many parents come into the school for parent teacher interviews on Thursday 2nd May. Many staff commented to me about how much they enjoyed meeting with parents to discuss the progress of their son or daughter. Seeing so many parents in the school communicating with teachers got me thinking again about student success. The most proven way of assisting students to apply themselves consistently and to achieve their potential is for the school and home to have open, trusting and transparent communication lines. Parent teacher interviews are about nurturing learning partnerships to support student success and to help our students achieve their best.

I hope that by the time you receive this newsletter our new website – www.goldengrovehs.sa.edu.au - will be functional. The new website should support parents in gaining the most up to date information about our school. The new web presence will also support improved communication between home and school. We now have the capacity to provide information to you almost as it happens. If you get a chance please have a look at the new site and don’t hesitate to provide me with feedback as we are still developing it and want to ensure that it enhances school / home communication.

I met with a number of parents at parent teacher interviews and on all occasions the discussion with parents was about how they can best support their son / daughter to achieve their best at school. I thought that I might reprint the information below. This information about some pointers on being successful at school was developed by Mike Meredith our Middle School Senior Leader and has been distributed to all our students.

For all students success at school is important. Being successful improves your chances of doing the things you want to achieve in life. All students can improve their results and achieve success if they make the effort. Some things that will help include:

- Regularly attending school and classes
- Doing your best and being engaged in class and home work
- Getting on well with all your teachers and other students
- Managing your time at school and home to meet deadlines
- Setting and achieving manageable goals
- Being organised and ready for all classes
- Actively seeking help if needed

Doing your best at school also requires you to develop some good learning habits and these include:

- Being persistent and trying even if it’s difficult
- Listening carefully and understanding what’s being said
- Thinking about and reflecting on your thoughts
- Striving for accuracy in your work
- Being creative, imaginative and innovative
- Questioning and clarifying your ideas

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Your teachers, parents and friends can help you develop these good habits as being successful is not an accident it happens because you choose to make it happen.

“Success means having the courage, the determination, and the will to become the person you believe you were meant to be”
George Sheehan

We don’t have to wait for parent teacher interviews to communicate. I encourage all parents to keep connected with their children’s teachers and please don’t hesitate to contact me if you have any concerns about your child’s learning and well-being at school.

Welcome to new staff

We have some new staff with us this term while some of our permanent staff are on leave. A special welcome to the following staff.

• Sophie Begetis in Home Economics while Sharyn McDowell is on leave
• Jamie Varacalli in Humanities / English while Fran Slater is on leave
• Rachel Moore in Maths / Science while Jana Hatchard is on leave
• Wendy Jackson in English / Drama while Linda Humphries is on leave
• Sue Hilder SSO - Disability Unit (Tuesday only)

Paul Wilson
Principal

FROM THE DESK OF ICT

Year 8 Laptops

The ICT leadership group is making plans for the next phase of our 1:1 laptop program moving into Year 8. A survey letter was sent with the last report at the end of Term 1. Many thanks go to the many replies that have been received so far.

We are hoping for a response from every family so we are asking for all Year 8 students to inform us of their intention for this year via their letter and beyond as far as choosing to bring their own laptop or take up a school loan - two options as below.

Option 1: Bring Your Own Device (BYOD)
Option 2: School Loan ( $200 deposit)

All BYOD devices will need certificates installed on the device and all adapters be tagged and tested before they are allowed for use in the school. This can be done at the IT help desk any time and only takes a few minutes.

If students in any year level, decide to bring a BYOD then we welcome that, subject to contacting the IT help desk as above. This includes Year 8 currently.

The front office has more copies of this letter if you require one. Returns need to go to the front office.

Social Media at Golden Grove

Our school is looking carefully at using social media for teaching and learning, and communicating with our community. A social media policy is being developed and as part of future developments our school will make increasing use of social media. Please forward your thoughts on this topic to Oryst Tkacz directly or by email to DL.1834.info@schools.sa.edu.au with Social Media in the subject.

Watch the newsletter for future developments in this area.

Oryst Tkacz
Senior Leader
**EXCEL REPORT – TERM 1**

**U.N. Youth State Conference The Road to Development**

Last November five of our Year 10 students attended the United Nations Young Diplomats’ Forum on Australia in the Asian Century held at the University of SA. In March this year, two of those students chose to continue their involvement with U.N. Youth, joining students from around the State to represent our school at a three-day residential weekend at Nuniyara Conference Centre, Belair, for the U.N. Youth State Conference on the theme: The Road to Development. Through interactive workshops, guest speaker sessions, discussion groups and interactive problem solving activities, they explored issues such as education, gender equality and resource scarcity throughout the developing world and in our own backyard. Liam Hayes is to be congratulated on being one of 10 students (out of over 60 students attending the conference) selected to represent the State at the U.N. Youth National Conference in July.

**Debating Club**

Debating is an extra-curricular activity which gives students the opportunity to develop their confidence at speaking in public – a useful skill for the rest of their lives. This year four GGHS teams will compete in the SA Debating Association (SADA) Interschool Debating Competition. Each team will take part in a total of 5 debates on Tuesday evenings during Terms 2 and 3 against private school teams in our zone. The SADA provides training for all debaters. On the 12th of March, 20 Year 8-10 students and their Debating Coaches (Mrs Horvat, Mrs Slater, Mrs Muscardin and I) attended a Debating Training Day at school. Later in March many of our new debaters and our experienced debaters attended evening training workshops (designed for students with their level of experience) held at the University of South Australia City West Campus. The Debating Club meets on Tuesday lunchtimes. New members (including complete beginners) are welcome to join the club at any time. Just come along to Room C16 any Tuesday at 1:05 p.m. (Bring your lunch.)

**Year 10 EXCEL Camp Environment Camp at Normanville**

From 20th-22nd March, 27 Year 10 EXCEL students (18 from GGHS, 9 from Gleeson College) attended the annual Environment Camp at Normanville. This year the camp began with a sun-drenched Adventure Kayaking Tour of the Port River Dolphin Sanctuary. Next students travelled by bus to Normanville Beachside Caravan Park and settled into their cabins, before watching a PowerPoint presentation by an expert on the endangered Hooded Plover (a very cute beach-nesting bird). Then for some offbeat brain training, students tried their hand at circus skills with diabolo, juggling balls and spinning plates. Then we waved goodbye to Mr Larritt and students formed teams to compete in a very professional PowerPoint Quiz Night. After a stormy first night, some of us braved the elements to walk along the wind-swept beach to Lady Bay. Then we all visited the Starfish Hill Wind Farm, before travelling to Victor Harbor. After lunch we visited the Whale Museum and walked around Granite Island, getting drenched by a downpour as we crossed back across the causeway! We returned to our Caravan Park to dry off before enjoying the evening’s entertainment – an Illusions Show. On the last day we visited the Aldinga Arts Eco-Village and learnt how to build environmentally-friendly houses. Despite the variable weather, from all reports, a good time was had by all.

Mrs Lyons
EXCEL Co-ordinator

**EVERY CHANCE EVERY CHILD**

The Every Chance Every Child free parenting seminars and family entertainment event is being held at the Lollipop Markets on Sunday May 19 at the Morphettville racecourse.

Gain some practical tips and advice about raising babies and toddlers as well as the opportunity to shop for boutique and hand-made items for expecting parents, babies, children, Mums and Dads on offer at the Lollipop Markets. There’s free car parking, free children’s entertainment and free crèche services available. To find out more or to book your place, visit www.everychild.eventbrite.com.au

Book your place, today.

For further information contact Allison Cook on 8226 4108 allison.cook@sa.gov.au

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**UMAT 2013**

**Undergraduate Medicine and Health Sciences Admissions Test**

Students in Year 12 who are planning to apply for university courses in medicine and health sciences are required to undertake a test that assists the universities to select the ideal candidates. Courses include: Medicine, Dental Surgery, Vision Science, Clinical Sciences, Optometry, Physiotherapy, Oral Health Science. Check your course entry requirements very carefully to ensure you know of the requirements. The national test does not repeat academic work covered in SACE subjects. The UMAT is the first step in the selection process, and if successful students will then be required to attend an interview. The ATAR will also be an important component of the selection process. The UMAT is a 3 hour test that measures the ability in the following areas:

- Logical Reasoning and Problem Solving
- Understanding People
- Non-verbal Reasoning

Potential candidates are required to register for the UMAT online from early April to 7 June. http://umat.acer.edu.au. The cost of registration is $210 or $110 if eligible for concession. Students should also ensure they read all the relevant material. UMAT test date is the 31 July 2013. The venue of the test will be information provided to you when registering.

**Southern Cross Cultural Exchange**

We are at present urgently looking for host families for our students due to arrive on 13th July. We still have 10 Spanish students who will be coming for 11 weeks that need a host family. There are also some German, Italian and French students as well. We continue to be a very popular destination for overseas students who wish to learn more English and experience life “Down Under”.

Host families do not need to have a child the same age to have a student, what we require is people with a kind heart and a willingness to help bring different cultures closer together.

If you are interested to know more please contact me on (08) 85562208 or email me jeh1313@bigpond.net.au

Jenny Hanson
State Manager
Southern Cross Cultural Exchange
Sunday 24th April was the departure date for the 2013 A2A tour group of 24 Year 10-11 students. It is the 7th time GGHS has been to Malaysia to perform in the International schools and explore the cultural elements of such a country.

This tour differed from the previous ones in that we designed our show around working with the students in Malaysia and incorporating them in our performances. This was a wonderful opportunity to work with International students studying in Malaysia and for our students to gain a different perspective on education in different countries.

Our first show at Uplands International School in Penang was particularly memorable and successful. The Uplands students were enthusiastic and very welcoming. Through working with them, our students gained some friendships that have lasted beyond the trip and the Uplands students had the benefit of working with our extremely talented cast to further their Arts education.

The challenges of international travel were abundant when arriving in Kuala Lumpur for our performance at Australian International Schools of Malaysia. The flight was late, the bus took an hour longer than it should have and our students went from plane to bus, up 5 flights of stairs, through the audience and straight backstage to begin the performance! There was no chance to re-stage the show for a different size stage and the students had to work out these issues 30 seconds before starting each item. Even some professional artists couldn’t do this and still perform at the level our students did.

At AISM our students had the opportunity to learn how to play some traditional Malaysian instruments and were treated to an extremely yummy lunch! The grounds here, like in Uplands were immaculate and completely devoid of rubbish. Our students couldn’t believe how clean the schools were compared to here. Our students asked how it happens that there is no rubbish, and we really mean no rubbish at all in the grounds – the Malaysian students replied ‘It’s easy, you just put it in the bin’ – they didn’t understand all the fuss. We challenge our GGHS students to take on this attitude!

Culturally it was an eye opener to many of our students. We underestimate the freedom of living in a country like Australia where public behaviours and dress codes, especially of women, are extremely open.

We had the opportunity to explore the various religions, food, shopping, landscape, tourist and architectural elements of Malaysia with some very passionate and informative guides. Apart from being extremely humid which wore even the best of us down, it was a really successful trip. The students and staff represented GGHS with pride and have returned to Australia better global citizens for having had this experience. I know the students would like to thank Mrs Young for being the tour manager and to Mrs Cullen and Miss Haines for their contributions. They would especially like to thank their parents for paying for it!

Touring, performing and studying overseas is a life changing experience. We are extremely lucky at GGHS to have many opportunities through the Arts & Languages to have access to these experiences. The Arts faculty are exploring future tour options that take on a different educational outcome and in different locations - stay tuned and start saving!

Lynette Haines
Coordinator - The Arts
DOES YOUR TEENAGER HAVE A SLEEP PROBLEM?

The Child and Adolescent Sleep Clinic in the School of Psychology at Flinders University is currently providing treatment for adolescents (aged 11 to 18 years) who are experiencing at least one of the following:

- Having trouble falling asleep
- Not feeling tired until late at night
- Having trouble waking up or getting out of bed in the morning

Places are limited. For more information, please call 8201 7587.

Yr 10 Semester 1 Work Experience 27 – 31 May 2013

Work Experience placements should be completed by the end of this term and preparations are underway for Year 10 students undertaking PLP this semester. The Work Experience program is an important opportunity for students to explore a career interest area, further develop valuable employability skills and make connections to the world of work in their local community. Some students have been fortunate to obtain part-time or casual work as a result of successful work experience. Other students may learn from their placement that they are not suited to the industry or that it was not as expected. Whatever the experience, its value cannot be underestimated and will assist our young people to establish goals and strategies for career development throughout their life.

Students and their parents/caregivers will receive a pack of information and instructions early this term which will assist them to gain success from the experience. This will include a Work Experience Diary which will also be a compulsory assessment task for their PLP class. Any student who is not completing work experience during the week set aside – Monday 27 until Friday 31 May 2013 – will be expected to attend normal classes. Please contact Angela Koehler at the school if you require further information.

REMINDER

Just a reminder to all parents / caregivers to make sure that you have updated your contact details if they have recently changed. This includes address, mobile numbers, email address, work contact or emergency contacts.

TEENS AND YOUNG ADULTS INVITED FOR INVESTIGATIONAL MENINGOCOCCAL B VACCINE STUDY

Are you aged 18 – 26 years old?
Do you have a child or children aged 10 – 18 years old?

We need volunteers to take part in new research that will evaluate the safety of an investigational meningococcal B vaccine in children and young people.

All vaccines will be provided at no cost, and you will be reimbursed for travel expenses.

To register your interest or for more information, contact the Vaccinology and Immunology Research Trials Unit (VIRTU) at the Women’s and Children’s Hospital on (08) 8161 8117.

(NB: Approval to advertise research in Department for Education and Child Development sites is not to be interpreted as departmental support for or endorsement of any aspect of the research, or its outcomes or recommendations. Approval to advertise is granted conditional upon the researcher’s compliance with the Department’s Research Guidelines and with national standards for the ethical conduct of human research.)
Senior Leader learner Support

Vikki Walkom
Senior Leader learner Support

understanding, learning and success. for our students to support their further

We strongly encourage use of this free service to support maths and science as well.

Students have accessed help predominantly for English but have also accessed strong support for maths and science as well.

We strongly encourage use of this free service for our students to support their further understanding, learning and success.

Vikki Walkom
Senior Leader learner Support

OUR NEW EALD
(English as an Additional Language or Dialect) CLASS

This year we have introduced our first Year 8-12 EALD class for students who speak English as a second or third language. To align with the Australian Curriculum, ESL (English as a Second Language) has been renamed EALD to cater for students who are learning English not as a second, but maybe a third or fourth language and for students who speak a different variety of English (e.g. Aboriginal English)

GGHS currently has an EALD class of 15 students from Asia (China, the Philippines and Thailand), Southeastern Europe/Western Asia (Turkey, Iran, Syria), South America (Argentina and Brazil) and Africa (Sudan and Burundi). Our students are multi-cultural and multi-lingual. They speak Cantonese, Tagalog, Thai, Turkish, Persian, Spanish, Portugese, Dinka, Arabic, Kirundi and English but also a little of others such as Japanese. Their teacher, Miss Laura Carrington, is also a Japanese and Spanish teacher here at GGHS and enjoys learning new words in the languages of her students.

Last term they created a children’s book in English and in some cases with a translation in their native tongue. They will be reading these books to Golden Grove Primary School students early this term.

Oz: The Great and Powerful EALD Excursion

On Monday of Week 11, Term 1, the EALD students along with Mr Dawson’s Year 8 English class, viewed the prequel to The Wizard of Oz at Hoyts Tea Tree Plaza. Year 8s and 10s are writing a movie review and the Year 9, 11 and 12 students are writing a letter to one of the characters. Student teacher Rachel Lawson is engaging the students and teaching exciting new vocabulary using an online program called Quizlet. You can study almost anything on there so give it a go!

So long Viratchar Setthawong!

More commonly known as ‘Park’, Viratchar, an international student from Thailand, arrived at GGHS late last term but quickly made the students and teachers in his classes laugh hysterically and be amazed by how good he is at English. He sang along to ‘Somewhere over the Rainbow’ in EALD, picked up Japanese very quickly and giggled as he walked around the school yard. We thank him for his good sense of humour and ideas he shared in class but hope he studies hard when he returns to Thailand. We wish you all the best Park! A big thank you to the Foster family for hosting Park for two months!

Year 10 Twenty 20 Cricket

This year’s team consisted of some very talented players which resulted in the team making it through undefeated to a grand final berth against cricketing giants Adelaide High School. Along the way the boys chalked up victories against Gleeson College, Birdwood High, The Heights (a specialist cricket school) and Gladstone High School. The final was played at Adelaide High and it was always going to be a struggle against the depth of the specialised cricket program of Adelaide High.

To the boys credit they were able to record a solid 70 in their 20 overs and take some early wickets to have Adelaide slightly nervous. Unfortunately Adelaide was able to real in our total and took the grand prize. It was an outstanding achievement for our boys to reach the grand final and play against such cricketing royalty. It was a real team effort from the first minor round game to the finals. Well done boys!

Michael Foot
Coach

Parent Information Evening

Building Strong Relationships and Resilience

Centacare & Golden Grove High School

Raising teenagers can be a demanding, nerve-wracking and stressful experience. However, developing tools for good emotional wellbeing and resilience is an excellent method of overcoming this stress.

To support our community, we are inviting parents and caregivers of children who attend Golden Grove to attend a wellbeing seminar run by Centacare. It will cover the following areas:

- What parents can do to promote resilience
- Risk factors and internal and external protective factors
- Specific activities for parents to promote resilience for themselves and their teenagers.

Time: 7.00-9.00pm (with break)
Tea and coffee provided.
Date: Monday, 27th May 2013
Location: Dame Roma Mitchell Centre, 1 Adey Pl Golden Grove SA 5125
RSVP: Your name and number of people attending to 0419 128 560 by 22 /5/13
Contact: Emma Talbot or David Larritt 8282 6400 for more information

Years 8 - 12
RIO TINTO BIG SCIENCE COMPETITION

This year’s Big Science competition will be held on Wednesday 22nd May (Week 4) in lesson 1. The competition consists of 30 multiple choice questions. The cost is $7.00 and all students receive a certificate and individual results letter. There are prizes to be won for just taking part including iPods, iTunes vouchers and movie passes.

If interested please see your science teacher for a consent form. The last day to pay is Friday 17th May. Good luck everyone.

S. McLaren
Science Coordinator

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