What do we expect from our graduates?

Welcome back for Term 4. As I write this we have concluded our Year 12 Awards Assembly for 2012. We have thanked our Year 12 class for their contributions to their school and we have specially acknowledged those who have recorded significant academic achievement and those who have contributed ‘above and beyond’ as student leaders and school community members.

In addressing the Awards Assembly I asked all of our class of 2012 to reflect … how has learning and development gone at this point in your lives when you are leaving school? I asked them whether they could answer ‘yes’ to the following questions …

1. Do you have the essential skills in literacy and numeracy?
2. Do you have the skills to use information and communications technology productively?
3. Are you able to think logically?
4. Are you able to obtain and evaluate evidence in a disciplined way?
5. Are you able to successfully work towards solving problems by drawing on your learning?
6. Are you able to plan independently and in teams and collaborate with others?
7. Are you able to communicate with others effectively and form and maintain healthy relationships with others?
8. Are you optimistic and motivated to achieve your full potential and do your best?
9. Do you have a pathway towards continued life success in further education, training or employment?
10. Do you have a sense of self-worth and personal identity that enables you to manage your well-being?
11. Do you have a set of personal values that will enable you to act with moral and ethical integrity?
12. Do you appreciate Australia’s social, cultural and religious diversity?

Our school is having conversations about the qualities we want all of our students to have when they graduate from our school. The Government’s Declaration of Educational Goals for Young Australians highlights that our country wants all young Australians to be...

- Successful learners
- Confident and creative individuals
- Active and informed citizens

What does this mean for our school and our community? I have listed 12 questions above – are these the qualities that our families and community expect our students to have when they leave school? I believe that our school measures up and that we can say that Golden Grove High School has been significant in developing these graduate qualities in our students. I welcome parent and community comment and thoughts about the qualities our young people should have after 12 years of schooling.

Paul Wilson
Principal
Visit to our sister school  
Seto Junior High School,  
Okayama-Ken, Japan

During the recent school holiday period I visited Japan specifically to renew our school’s friendship with our sister school, Seto Junior High School in western Japan. Golden Grove High School has had a sister school relationship with Seto Junior High School since xxxx. Seto is a town of approx 15,000 people and is located in the prefecture of Okayama. The township of Seto can be accessed by a 15 minute train trip from the city of Okayama.

As part of our sister school relationship, we send a teacher from our school to Seto every couple of years for a 2 week exchange. Kirsty Jeffree, one of our Japanese teachers, returned to Golden Grove High School last week after a 2 week exchange from October 1 – 12. We also have a student exchange with Seto. We have a group of 6 students and 2 staff travelling to Japan and spending a couple of weeks at Seto in January next year.

I am really happy to report that our relationship with Seto Junior High School is still strong. I was warmly welcomed by Kocho Sensei (the Principal) and the students and staff at Seto. They took great delight in our visit and were very hospitable. They conducted a special assembly to welcome Ms Jeffree and myself to the school. The students at Seto wanted to know about our country and about South Australia and about Golden Grove High School in particular. It was heartening to learn that the students at Seto look forward to our visits and they enjoy the interaction our Japanese students maintain with them as part of their learning. There were many displays around the school that highlighted our relationship. There was work from Golden Grove students providing information about South Australia on display.

Understanding and appreciating the importance of Australia’s engagement with Asia is a learning priority that is highlighted in the new Australian Curriculum. Because of our position close to Asia and because of the growing importance of Asia to the world, the 21st Century is regarded by many commentators as the Asian Century. Our schools are expected to support our young people in having an understanding of the countries and cultures of the Asia region. Our sister school relationship with Seto Junior High School in Japan and our Arts 2 Asia excursion are tangible connections that our school has with Asia. I look forward to working with the school community to continue these connections. Our connections with Asian schools are providing opportunities for our students to be active and informed citizens who understand diversity and who understand that social inclusion and cohesion are vital to the prosperity of our country.

I spoke to the middle school students last week about the fact that learning is lifelong and we continue to learn all the time by keeping our eyes and ears open. Some of the things that I learnt from my visit to Seto Junior High School and to Japan were …

- Japan’s population is 6 times that of Australia’s (127m people compared to 22m).
- The land size of Japan is roughly equivalent to the size of the state of Queensland.
- 64% of the land in Japan is inhabitable because of mountains.
- Japan’s capital city – Tokyo has 12m people but each day its population swells to 16m as people come to the city to work.
- Shinjuku railway station in Tokyo has 3m people pass through it each day.
- Japan is in the process of having a magnetic levitation train service between Osaka and Tokyo – this train will be able to travel at speeds up to 500kms / hour.
- Japan’s answer to global warming is to have its public servants wear no coats or ties in summer so that they can keep the air conditioning low.
- Teachers and school principals are highly respected.
- In Japan they place a high priority in teaching about their history, culture and language.
- Japanese students learn English and the focus is on reading and grammar.
- Most Japanese classrooms contain around 40 students.
- Students take their street shoes off while at school.
- Students are expected to do club after school. This involves cultural and sporting pursuits, and as a result most Japanese students don’t get home from school before 6.00pm.
- Students are provided with a 3 course school lunch, including milk, each day.
- Japanese students do not have individual digital learning devices.
- Blackboards and chalk are still commonly used in Japanese classrooms.
- Most students travel to school by train or by bicycle.
- Students in Japan have no choice about the subjects they study.

Paul Wilson
Year 12 Celebration Assembly 2012

The Year 12 Celebration Assembly was held on Friday October 19 in the Recreation and Arts Centre. An established event on the school calendar, this year’s program was presented to an appreciative audience which included all students of Years 8-11, a large group of supportive parents of Year 12 students and invited guests.

The program, structured to include recognition of academic achievement and contributions to school life, also contained Dance and Musical performances by Year 12 students which drew warm applause from the appreciative audience.

The founding Principal of Golden Grove High School, Mr David George, presented the school’s highest award, named in his honour, to Kacy Ratta. Other notable awardees were Rebecca Flanagan, The Australian Defence Force Award and Miranda Miller, The Caltex All Rounder Award.

Well done to all the Year 12s and best wishes for your concluding assessments and exams. Many thanks to all those involved in preparation of the assembly.

Greg Walkom
Senior Leader - Senior Schooling

GOLDEN GROVE HIGH SCHOOL
2012 YEAR 12 AWARD WINNERS

Kacy Ratta
DC George Award

Rebecca Flanagan
ADF Leadership and Teamwork Award

Miranda Miller
Caltex Best All Rounder Award

Kate Rose
Performing Arts Award

Kaili Norsworthy
Female Sports Award

Matthew Forester
Male Sports Award

Tyler Voigt
MusicEdnet Animation Award

Kristy Blundell
Sharon Winen Memorial Award

Maruf Aziz
Science, Technology and Mathematics Award

Jenna Harper
Principal’s Award

Ashleigh O’Gara
Principal’s Award

Sarah Quinn
Rotary Community and School Service Award

Ben Blatchford
Rotary Community and School Service Award
Golden Grove High School
2012 Year 12 Service, Subject and Merit Awards

Service Awards
Mollie Beck    Student Voice Executive
Mitchell Beckett   Year 12 Council
Ben Blatchford    Student Voice Executive, Year 12 Council
Gemma Dalzotto   Year 12 Council
Rebecca Flanagan   Student Voice Executive, Year 12 Council, President
Chloe Grigg     Year 12 Council
Jenna Harper     Year 12 Council
Lauren Johnson   Student Voice Executive, Year 12 Council
Brooke Kamenic   Year 12 Council
Miranda Miller   Student Voice Executive, Year 12 Council
Kaili Norsworthy   Year 12 Council
Ashleigh O’Gara  Year 12 Council
Rachel Pike      Year 12 Council
Sarah Quinn      Year 12 Council
Kacy Ratta       Student Voice Executive, Year 12 Council, President
Taylor Thompson  Student Voice Executive, Year 12 Council

Merit Awards
Jessica Beckedorf   Food & Hospitality, English Communications
Carly Bowman-Northeast   Tourism, Child Studies, Research Project
Sean Buckley        Chemistry and Biology
Brooke Dilmetz      English Communications, Research Project
Jenna Harper        Research Project, English Studies
Blake Mitchell      Physics, Mathematical Studies
Jessica Narcissi    Child Studies, Mathematical Applications, Research Project
Emma Nisbet        Outdoor Education, English Communications
Philip Noble        Psychology, Mathematical Applications
Caitlin Palmer      Tourism, Child Studies
Tyler Pratt         English Communications, Scientific Studies
Bo Roper            English Studies, Psychology, Drama
Kate Rose

Subject and Merit Awards
Maruf Aziz    Physics, Biology, Chemistry and Research Project
Ryan Balfour  Electronics and Research Project
Natasha Bright Music Technology, Digital Multi-Media
Tim Casiero   Visual Arts-Design, Digital Multi-Media and English Studies
Maddison Cocks Workplace Practices, Research Project
Melina D’Agostini Chemistry & Biology, Physics and Research Project
Leanie Delport    Mathematical Applications, Tourism and English Communications
Maddi Dick     Society & Culture and Health, Psychology
Michelle Fedornak Digital Multi-Media and Research Project, Visual Arts-Art
Demi Heine     Child Studies, Tourism and Health
Niamh Keller   Dance, Research Project
Kym Miaco      Music, Drama, English Studies and Research Project
Ashleigh O’Gara Outdoor Education, Research Project
Kacy Ratta     Psychology, Drama and English Studies, Research Project and Visual Arts-Art
Brittany Sumpter Mathematical Applications, Tourism and English Communications
Golden Grove High School
2012 Year 12 Service, Subject and Merit Awards

Merit Awards
Ben Balthford    English Communications
Kristy Blundell    Food and Hospitality
Dylan Carter    Mathematics Applications
Courtney Chance    Workplace Practices
Jed Cousins    English Communications
Nicole Cunningham    Society and Culture
Rebecca Flanagan    Mathematics Applications
Matthew Forester    Physical Education
Richard Goss    Research Project
Laura Hiscock    Scientific Studies
Brandon Horne    Music
Lauren Johnson    Information Processing and Publishing
Heather Maggs    Information Processing and Publishing
Ahok Mangar    English Communications
Nikki McMutrie    Outdoor Education
Blake Mitchell    Mathematical Studies
Daniel Moderiano    Mathematical Studies
Alexandra Moore    Research Project
Hannah Neale    Society and Culture
KailiNorsworthy    Physical Education
Tayla Ritter    Health
Alexandra Schmocker    Spanish Continuers
Alyssa Sharpe    English Communications
Shaina Taylor    Dance
Michael Tossel    Spanish Continuers
James Trenorden    English Communications
Jessica Trittinger    Research Project
Mariah Tureli    Visual Arts - Design

Subject Awards
Ramy Aboustate    Disability Unit
Nicole Faulbaum    English Communications & Tourism
Tristan Kennison    Scientific Studies
Lauren Pillen    Disability Unit
Daniel Sansome    Mathematical Studies
Ashleigh Seedsman    Information Processing & Publishing
Rhiannon Warsito    English Studies & Spanish Continuers

Golden Grove High School New Email Address

With recent updates to the Department for Education and Child Development, there is a new email address for Golden Grove High School. If you are wishing to send us an email please address it to:

dl.1834_info@schools.sa.edu.au and attention to the staff member or faculty area required.
Parents are reminded that Golden Grove High School has initiated a 1:1 laptop program this year. We have implemented a program that supports learning anywhere anytime. This allows all students to access learning materials at school and from home, via school systems including the website and remote access. Once configured to the school’s systems, a student laptop (BYO option) can log into our virtual desktop server (Citrix) which provides access to our specific education learning resources, as well as currently available software packages including MS Office, to complete work tasks.

Students across Years 9 – 12 are able to:
(a) Loan a laptop at school, supplied and able to take home for duration of a student’s time at GGHS with a $200 deposit. A Loan Contract Agreement needs to be signed.
(b) Bring their own Laptop [need to connect to school wireless network and to school virtual desktop/Apps (Citrix)]

Year 12 students finishing their studies [and leaving] will need to return their school loan laptop, if they have one, as part of their leaving procedure.

Continuing students, currently in Years 9 – 11, are encouraged to take up an option of a Bring Your Own Device [BYOD], or continue with the school Loan Laptop that they already have. Students currently in Years 8 – 11, who have not engaged with an option to have a school laptop are advised that it is a strong expectation of the school’s ICT 1:1 laptop program and the strategic directions, to have a school laptop available for use in class as courses are increasingly reliant on this. Teachers are expecting all students from Years 9 – 12 to have a laptop in class for 2013.

New Year 8 students, in 2013, are encouraged to bring their own laptop, and have it configured to school systems to participate in our learning anywhere anytime program.

These devices need to have the following Minimum Specifications:
Windows based PCs are the preferred device.

Processor: Intel® Core™ Core i3
LCD: 11.6”WXGAG Widescreen HD
RAM: 2GB DDR3-1066 Memory
HDD: 320GB Hard Drive
Wireless: 802.11n Wi-Fi 5.0Ghz Capable
Battery: 6-cell 2.8 Battery = 8hrs+ battery life
OS: Windows 7 Home Premium

Oryst Tkacz
ICT Senior Leader

Have your Say: new DECD Numeracy and Literacy Strategy
You are invited to have your say about a new Numeracy and Literacy Strategy – Birth to 18 for South Australian public preschool and school communities.

The proposed strategy is outlined in a new paper to support community discussion released by the Minister for Education and Child Development, Grace Portolesi.

Parents and families understand and value the importance of children developing numeracy and literacy skills. Being able to read, talk, write and spell and to understand and use mathematical knowledge and skills are essential for active participation in our society.

The strategy will build on the many successful achievements and programs that work in our preschool and school communities. Encouraging parents and educators to work together to develop these important foundational skills for children is central to the proposed strategy.

Based on research, the discussion paper includes six key drivers:
1. All children benefit from a great start
2. Families and communities play a key role
3. Supporting every child to be successful
4. Teachers make a difference
5. A focus on numeracy and literacy leadership
6. Achieving high numeracy and literacy standards

These drivers work together to renew our combined efforts and resources to improve these skills for children and young people in our school/preschool community. The new strategy will be introduced from the 2013 school/preschool year.

Based on research, the discussion paper includes six key drivers:

You are invited to visit http://saplan.org.au/yoursay before 30 November or email DECD.NumeracyandLiteracy@sa.gov.au to contribute your views and ideas.

Copies of the paper are also available at the school (contact Cynthia Richardson on 8282 6400) or visit www.decd.sa.gov.au to download a copy.
New Social Media Policy and Guidelines for Schools

The Education Department has released a social media policy and guidelines. These materials provide practical advice about how schools and preschools can use and manage social media.

This advice covers protecting student and staff privacy, and defining the boundaries for staff in their interactions with students when using social networking sites such as Facebook.

A number of schools in South Australia have recently reported social media sites using their school’s name and/or logo. Some of these sites included material considered offensive, including defamatory comments about students, staff and others in the school community.

The department’s social media website www.decd.sa.gov.au/socialmedia provides guidance on how to go about reporting offensive social media sites.

Our school is in the process of setting up a new web presence including a Facebook account to keep parents and the local community informed of our school’s activities and initiatives.

If you would like to find out more about the new DECD Social Media Policy and Guidelines please go to www.decd.sa.gov.au/socialmedia.

Paul Wilson
Principal