Upcoming Dates

Wednesday 6th March — Under 15's Netball in Bourke
Thursday 7th March — Regional Swimming in Dubbo
School Photos — Wednesday 20th March
Tuesday 26th March — Year 7 & Year 9 Vaccinations

Congratulations to Mrs Hellene Underwood who has been successful in her application for a Regional Teacher Scholarship through Bell Shakespeare. Mrs Underwood will travel to Bell Shakespeare in Sydney for an intensive four days of Professional Learning to hone techniques in Drama and English teaching skills.

Bell Shakespeare received 92 applications and we are thrilled that Mrs Underwood has attained this scholarship.

NYNGAN HIGH SCHOOL ACHIEVEMENTS

Well done to Year 10 student Luke Wye who has been successful in his application for a Premier’s ANZAC Memorial Scholarship. Luke will be part of a tour to Korea that will be undertaken in the July holidays.

Congratulations to Luke on this wonderful achievement and we look forward to hearing all about it on his return.
Welcome Back

Welcome back to school following our mid term break. I hope everyone had a relaxing time with their family, or enjoyed the convenience of attending medical or other appointments, which were scheduled during this time. This term feels unusual as we have another break coming up at Easter time, which is not a holiday break. As teachers, we will be working with students to ensure continuity in a broken up term through unavoidable circumstances of the calendar. Generally, it has been a smooth start to the year for most students.

Congratulations to Mrs Underwood

Mrs Underwood has been successful in her application for a scholarship through Bell Shakespeare for 12 teachers located in regional and remote areas of Australia. Mrs Underwood will travel to Bell Shakespeare head quarters in Sydney on Thursday 2 - Tuesday 7 May 2013 for an intensive four days of tailored Professional Learning. It’s a chance to hone her Drama and English teaching skills, learn innovative techniques for teaching Shakespeare and see live theatre. It’s also a perfect opportunity to build lasting networks with other teachers in regional and remote areas. All teachers’ travel, accommodation and Professional Learning expenses are covered.

Bell Shakespeare received a record 92 applications and we are thrilled that Mrs Underwood has attained a 2013 Regional Teacher Scholarship. Congratulations to Mrs Underwood!

School Uniform

Last Monday evening, parents and citizens contributed to a discussion regarding our school uniform. The consultation process continues today through a survey. I encourage all parents to notify us of their views via the survey. It is important that we have input from all of the community to ensure that our uniform suits the needs of our student body. I look forward to reading the results of the survey. The results of this survey will be combined with consultation from P&C, AECG and SRC and presented in a public forum, preferably a P&C Meeting later in the term. It is the aim of the school to have our uniform finalised by the end of this term to allow teachers to actively monitor the wearing of school uniform.

Parents are asked to ensure that their children are wearing full school uniform each day. During a normal school day, students are asked to bring a note from home if they are unable to wear their uniform one particular day.

Professional Development of Staff

This Thursday and Friday, Mrs Murray will be attending the Western Region Deputy Principal’s Conference in Dubbo. This conference is an extremely valuable resource for Deputy Principals across the region to develop their leadership skills and bring back information and strategies to implement in their schools. Mrs Hunt has been asked to speak at the conference to inform the Deputy Principals about the latest progress at Nyngan High School relating to Local Schools Local Decisions, Empowering Local Schools, Every Student Every School and Learning Management and Business Reform. As you will be aware, Nyngan High School is a pilot or focus school for many programs at the moment. Other schools have chosen not to be involved. Our school is one of only two high schools in Western Region involved, and therefore, Deputy Principals will benefit from development in these areas. This will mean that Mrs Walsh will relieve as principal on Thursday afternoon this week.

Xsel Residential School

Six of our students will be travelling to Dubbo on Wednesday afternoon this week to attend the first xsel Residential School for the year. For Luke, Zara, Emerson and Keegan it is a usual occurrence now, and we have two new students who will be going for the first time in Zoe and Ellita. Unfortunately, Tom will miss out on the residential school, but he will be representing our school at Western Region Swimming Carnival.

Western Region Swimming

We wish all of our students who will be travelling to the Western Region Swimming Carnival this week the very best of luck. Thank you in advance to the parents who are driving their children to the carnival.

Bogan River Ball Catering

This coming weekend, our Hospitality students and Miss Lippy Lipman will be catering for the Bogan River Ball. Each time the students have catered to a large crowd of very happy guests. Students interested in assisting have been asked to speak to Miss Lipman. Thank you in advance for all of the hard work that will go into this catering event. The school earns money from this work, but more importantly, our reputation is enhanced as our community are shown first hand the excellence that is produced by our students regularly.
Boys and Girls Soccer, Girls Netball

This week we have teams of Boys and Girls Soccer, as well as Girls Netball players travelling to play in the state knock out games for this year. We wish our students well in their games. Students are reminded that full school uniform is required to be worn.

Good Number Sense

Maths is a numbers game but for some students - and parents - the figures don't add up. Here are some strategies to help kids to work out sums in their heads in a way that makes sense to them.


Essay Planning

Kids often rush headlong into essay writing tasks without thinking through what is required. Effective essay planning can involve brainstorming, mind-mapping, and organising notes depending on the question and type of response required. These factsheets explain everything.


Reading With Your Child At Home

When your kids see you reading and writing in everyday life – whether reading for pleasure, sharing a story with them or making a shopping list – it teaches them that they are useful skills. Here are some things you can do at home to help your kids with reading.


Removing Head Lice and Nits

Mention head lice and most of us instantly develop an itch. While head lice and nits, (the eggs of head lice) are certainly annoying and persistent, they're not dangerous. Here's everything you need to know to rid your kids of head lice and nits.


Does Multi-tasking Reduce Focus?

Can your kids really study while updating their Facebook page, listening to their music players and messaging their friends? Research shows dedicated study time without distractions produces better learning and a greater ability to retrieve information. Find out more:


When Kids Are Bullied

We send our kids off to school each day to learn. In between lessons they go outside to play – but the learning doesn't stop. The playground can help prepare them for some of the social challenges they will face throughout their lifetime. Find out more:


*Have a great week!*

*Kind Regards,*

*Mrs Nicole Hunt*

*Principal*
Deputy Principal’s Newsletter Report

Good Guys Week

Last week teachers rewarded students for being a “Good Guy”. 189 Good Guys awards were given out by teachers to students who were being safe, showing respect, displaying integrity or doing their best; that is, they were displaying our core values. A Good Guy falls within the category of Improvement/Encouragement in our merit system. Students received the certificate of merit, a point towards the merit system levels and a chocolate from Mrs Hunt or myself.

Lockers

Year 7 and students who were not allocated a locker last year have received a Locker Application Form and most have returned the signed contract to me in the Deputy Principal’s office. Students can still hand in their forms and be allocated a locker.

Year 12 Exams

Year 12 exams are still quite a way off but here are some Top Tips from past Year 12 students:

Do it now, so you don’t have to do it later;
Constant revision throughout the year is the key;
Organisation throughout the year is very important, not just in the lead up to exams;
If you are behind at the end of the week, make sure you catch up during the weekend and start the new week with a fresh start—it is much less stressful.
I hope you enjoyed the mid-term break and have returned refreshed and ready to focus on work and learning.

Kind regards,

Melanie Murray
Deputy Principal

P&C News

Hi Everyone,

We had a very productive meeting last week, solely about the uniform, and surprisingly most people were happy with very little change to the current policy. We are however asking for everyone else’s opinion via a survey. So if you are interested in completing the attached survey please do so prior to the 15th March and hand it back to the front office. These will be reviewed and hopefully then a decision can be made as soon as possible.

We are drawing the 300 Club this Friday night the 8th of March at the RSL Club. We still have about 30 to 40 tickets to sell however it has been dragging on too long and we just need to get it drawn. If anyone wants to come to see the draw feel free to come to the RSL on Friday night or if you would like to purchase a ticket before it is drawn please phone me on 0428739426 or see Janelle Jeffery at Jazz ‘Em Up or Melissa Salter in the Nyngan High School Front Office.

Good luck to everyone that has purchased a ticket and remember all funds raised will go towards the purchase of a new school bus eventually, but we have lots of money to raise before that can happen.

Just a reminder also that our AGM will be held on Monday the 18th March at 5.45pm followed by a general meeting. Please come along. Our meetings are very informative and you are always welcome. Just remember to bring your $2 membership.

Thanks for listening,

Stephanie Waterhouse
Nyngan High School P&C Association
President
English/HSIE News

The English/HSIE enjoyed a lovely mid-term break and are now ready to tackle the second half of the term. Congratulations to all Nyngan High students who have been so diligent in completing their homework, it is proving a great success. In addition to the weekly homework sheets which help to build students’ vocabulary, we strongly recommended that students should be reading each night also. This could be from their favourite magazine, the newspaper or a favourite book…sorry facebook doesn’t count! Reading can increase vocabulary, improve spelling and writing, increase memory and analytical skills and reduce stress levels to name a few. Best of all, it’s fun and you just may learn something new.

SRC voting takes place today and we nervously await the announcement next week. Good luck to all those involved. As usual, it is an extremely dedicated and motivated group of individuals who have nominated and the 2013 SRC looks to be our strongest yet.

Debating time has come around again and Mrs Underwood is looking for a team to join the Premiers Debating Challenge. Last year’s team gained valuable skills and although they were defeated in the final round, they put up a great fight and we are sure that we will have an even stronger team this year. So if you like to argue, then now is your chance to do it openly…

I’ll leave you with some inspiration for never giving up…

A Bush
Head Teacher English
REGISTRATION DAY

TUESDAY AND THURSDAY THIS WEEK
(5 and 7th MARCH)
4PM - 6PM @ JUNIOR LEAGUE OVAL
$65 A PLAYER OR $120 A FAMILY
(CHEAPEST IN NSW)

PLEASE PASS THE WORD AROUND

I'VE ATTACHED THE MEDICAL FORM THAT NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED WITH REGISTRATION, IT WILL SAVE A LOT OF TIME IF YOU CAN DOWNLOAD IT AND TAKE ALONG WITH YOU, OR SCAN AND EMAIL BACK TO THIS ADDRESS. IT'S PRETTY STRAIGHT FORWARD, FILL IN THE PLAYERS DETAILS WITH THE PARENTS SIGNATURE SIGNED ON THE BACK.

THE UNDER 12'S WILL COMMENCE TRAINING TOMORROW AT 4:30PM, THE REMAINDER OF THE TEAMS TRAINING DAYS WILL BE LEFT TO THE COACHES.

AS ALWAYS IF YOU NEED ANY INFO CALL 0409222903
Pink Stumps Day Fundraiser on Thursday

On Thursday, a few students will be coming around at recess/lunch selling raffle tickets to raise funds for the McGrath Foundation. We are yet to reach our target but are getting close. Tickets are $2 each or 3 for $5. It would be great if students could support the raffle on the day by purchasing tickets.

Also, everyone is welcome to come along to Frank Smith Oval on Saturday morning to help support the Nyngan Junior/Milo Cricket players raise funds for the McGrath Foundation. Wear pink and bring along some spare cash to buy a sausage sandwich, pikelets or a drink on the day.

Mr Walsh

Weather for Ducks !!—Open Boys Cricket Report

"The weather is great, for ducks!, was mentioned multiple times by Cooper Barrow as we were driving through torrential rain. As Mrs Smith, Mr Barton and myself, Mr O’Neill, were approaching Bourke, we discussed the weather briefly and committed to stick the trip out to Bourke, hoping the weather would be clear as the students were saying the ‘eye of the storm’.

On arrival, Bourke High School was waiting and raring to go. As the weather cleared up for the game to begin, Bourke started the game facing, unfortunately they were up against the might of Nyngan High School. Captain Dane Casey scoring 4 wickets, Mitchell Williams Hedges scoring 2 wickets and Cooper Barrow scoring 2 wickets in a row, narrowly missing out on a hat trick. Patrick Walsh finished off Bourke’s batting in his first over of the day receiving 2 wickets. The guys worked swiftly to make it clear that it was in fact weather for ducks, with 5 Bourke players walking off with ducks.

Nyngan required 38 runs in the 20/20 game to be victorious. Mitchell Williams Hedges opened the batting scoring the majority of the runs and the only boundary for Nyngan. Dane Casey and Stuart Barton scored runs with Cooper Barrow finishing off the game with a reverse sweep for 39 runs in the 9th over.

The boys had a great day despite the weather. As the new Science teacher, I am going to have to use my chemistry skills to get those stains out of the school cricket shirts from the celebratory slides on the wet pitch! Congratulations boys, you all played well, and a big thank you to Mrs Smith and Mr Barton for their assistance on the day. I’m looking forward to the next game.

Mr P O’Neill

Cricket Coordinator