The passing showers didn’t deter students from competing in the annual swimming carnival last Wednesday with participation at a high. The day started with Mrs Balcombe in her wet weather gear, cloaked by a soaked Hall flag, pacing the length of the pool mentoring her swimmers.

Hall took an early lead, 10 points at first tally to Gilbert then Gardiner. This only lasted till lunch when Gardiner moved into second, Hall maintaining its lead by 1 point. At the day’s end Gardiner had cemented their position in first by winning 4 of the 6 relays. Gardiner 541 just edged out Gilbert 517 to win by 24 points followed by Hall on 493.

Half time laughs were reserved for the Belly Flop competition with a record amount of entrants. Winners for this year were Sam Willson, Daisy Whatmam, Tim Wythes and Sally McLean.

Four records were broken on the day:
Madison Vitnell – Senior Girls 33m Freestyle 20.23
   Senior Girls 33m Backstroke 25.09
Amelia Holmes – 13yr Girls 33m Freestyle 21.19
Will Middleton – 14yr Boys 33m Backstroke 25.73

Age Champions:
12yr Girl - Breeze Knight 12yr Boy - Brayden Fliedner
13yr Girl - Brooke Kinsela 13yr Boy - Curtis Bennett
14yr Girl - Ashley McLean 14 yr Boy - Mitchell Stanley & Nathan Whatman eq.
15yr Girl - Alicia Earsman 15yr Boy - Regan Hughes
16yr Girl - Grace Brodie 16yr Boy - Bailey Cain
Senior Girl - Madison Vitnell Senior Boy - Tim Wythes

Thank you to Jarrod and Lisa at the pool, to all parents who came to help and support and to Mr McKenzie for his efforts in organising the day. It was enjoyed by all even Mr McLaughlan who ended up taking a fully clothed birthday dip.

Western Area Swimming

Students wanting to go to Western Swimming Trials must see Mr McKenzie before the 20th of February. Students will need to meet qualifying standards to be eligible. The Western Area Carnival will be held at the Cowra Aquatics Centre on Friday the 2nd March.
Principal’s News

Year 12 had an informative excursion to Wollongong University last Monday and Tuesday. Thanks to Mrs Taylor and Ms Cousins for organising the excursion and supervising the students overnight. It was great to hear about all of the opportunities the Year 12 students are interested in post high school.

Year 9 now have their DER laptops. Thanks to Mr Gill for planning and running the Yr 9 Laptop information night last Monday. Thank you to the parents who attended at short notice. Mr Gill is available before and after school and also during recess and lunch if the students require assistance.

Well done to Mr McKenzie for the successful swimming carnival last week. It was great to see most students attending and a large percentage participating. Congratulations to Canowindra High School for an inclusive and fun day.

Well done to all students who nominated as SRC leaders last week. Congratulations to the 2012 SRC: (pictured above)
Year 7—Jack Traves and Adelaide Ellis
Year 8—Matt Harrison and Meg Austin
Year 9—Daisy Whatman and Sam Townsend
Year 10—Luke Wallace, Annie Elliott and Jack Beath
Year 11—Taihau Ah Mat, Philippa Myers, Imogen Brennan, Stewart Russell and Scott Welsh, and
Year 12—Jade Workman, Blake Willson, Emily McTaggart, Simone Middleton and Harry Myers.

All parents and carers are welcome to attend this month’s P&C meeting (held each 3rd Thursday). The meeting begins at 5:30pm on Thursday 16th and will be held in the staff common room. This is a great opportunity to get involved in the school!

Nicole Bugeja
Principal (Rlg)

Faculty in Focus: Science, Music & Art

We’ve only been back at school for 2 weeks, but the Science/Creative & Performing Arts faculties – both staff and students -- are hard at it. It is a pleasure to work with such a highly motivated, committed and experienced group of teachers and to see classes with students who are positive and focused.

Once again our results in the external exams have been very good, with many students achieving high grades in 2011. Congratulations need to be extended to Ms Cousins, Mrs Balcombe, Mr Dagg and Mrs Curtis for the excellent work they did in preparing our students for these exams.

I would also like to thank and congratulate Mrs McKenzie (formerly Merchant) for her excellent leadership of the Science/CAPA faculties whilst I was on leave over semester 2 last year.

A warm welcome is extended to Mrs Kerrie Smith, who is joining the Science team this year. Mrs Smith will be teaching Yr 7 and Yr 8 Science classes. A similar welcome is also extended to Mrs Leanne Harrison who is our new relieving Laboratory assistant, replacing Mrs Dianne Cole who has retired after being the Laboratory/Kitchen assistant for many years. We thank Mrs Cole for her hard work and wish her well in her retirement.

A positive development in 2012 is the appointment of Mrs Balcombe to the position of coordinator for the teaching of Chemistry to a network of schools (LAP) across the Lachlan region. Using videoconferencing, Mrs Balcombe, with her outstanding skills in Chemistry teaching, will lecture and supervise the learning experiences of a number of Stage 6 Chemistry students from these schools.

Mr Harvey (Science, Music & Art)

i.Xtend

i.Xtend is a Western NSW Region program which is an enrichment program designed to cater for the needs of gifted and talented students in the middle years of schooling.

This year 8 Canowindra High School students were successful in being offered placement in the i.Xtend program. Our congratulations go to Meg Austin, Jack Workman, Adelaide Ellis, Matthew Harrison, Wesley Blair, Amy Wallace, Ciaran Etty and Riley Frost.
What's On

**Week 4A**

- **This Week**
  - 13-17 February
  - Yr 12 Work Placement for Hospitality & Primary Industries

- **Monday**
  - 13 February
  - Yr 11 Chemistry Seminar
  - Cowra

- **Tuesday**
  - 14 February
  - Yr 11 Chem/Physics Seminar
  - Condobolin

- **Thursday**
  - 16 February
  - P & C Meeting
  - 5.30 pm

**Week 5B**

- **All week**
  - 20 –24 February
  - Year 7 Interviews

- **Tuesday**
  - 21 February
  - Yr 10 Scripture - Period 5

- **Wednesday**
  - 22 February
  - Canteen RED Day

- **Thursday**
  - 23 February
  - SRC Video Conf 12-2 pm

- **Friday**
  - 24 February
  - SRC ‘A Start to Life’ fundraiser

**Assessments Due:**

- **Week 4**
  - Year 12 - English Standard 2, English Advanced 2, IT Auto 2, Modern History 2

- **Week 9**
  - Year 12 – Biology 1, Design & Technology 1, PD/H/PE 1, Visual Arts 1

- **Week 5**
  - Year 12 - Physics 2

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**CANOWINDRA JUNIOR LEAGUE REGISTRATION**

Registrations for Canowindra Junior League are still taking place at the oval at 5 pm on 14th & 16th February and also from 10 am till 12 noon on Saturday 18th February.

New players must bring their birth certificate original as well as 2 photocopies.

A parent needs to be present for ALL registering players as there is quite a bit of paperwork to fill in and sign.

Cost is $35 which includes socks and shorts in our team colours.

For those players already registered training will commence for under 10s and under 12s at 5pm on the 16th February.

Under 8s training will commence on the 21st February at 5pm.

Under 16s and under 14s training is already taking place on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5.30pm.

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**HUMOUR**

Humour is the National Year of Reading’s theme for February. Borrow a book from the library’s display or browse the shelves for a good laugh. Don’t forget to ask for a bookmark before you leave.

**READ THIS!**

*Read This* is a competition for readers aged 12-20 that encourages teen reading through a creative response to a book readers like and want to recommend to others.

Nominate one book you think your friends should read in 2012 and write a convincing and creative argument why they should. It can take the form of traditional or multimedia, fan fiction, poetry, craft, mashup, book trailer and performance. See for an example, Julian Smith’s ‘I’m reading a book’

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BuRuwR2JSX](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BuRuwR2JSX)

Responses will be uploaded to a purpose-built website, hosted by Spineout(Good Reading) in collaboration with, the insideadog.com.au website. Watch this space for more details.

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**Car Battery Drive - Fundraiser for the Year 10 Narrabeen Excursion to Sydney**

All battery sizes, trucks, cars etc can be dropped off at:

- Ken’s Garage, cnr Rodd and Ferguson Streets, or
- Canowindra High between 8 & 8.30 am at the Agriculture shed

Any enquiries to Owen McLaughlan (Yr 10 Adviser) on 6344 1305
Meeting started at 5.45pm.

**Present:** Nicole Bugeja, Cathy Ellis, Stephen Russell, Lynne Russell, Narelle Hughes, Narelle Robinson, Carolyn Austin, Leanne Harrison.

**Apologies:** Glenda Gavin, Angela Thornberry.

Minutes of the previous meeting read & passed as correct. Moved Lynne. Seconded Cathy.

**Business Arising from Minutes**

A meeting regarding the canteen breakfast menu was held with Cathy, Nicole, Leanne, Lorraine and Sue, and it was decided that for Term 1 breakfast will be available 8.30-8.45am. There will be a limited menu, with all items costing $1.50 or $2.50 for a food and drink item combo. Prices are for breakfast only.

**Correspondence**

**Inwards:** Canteen A/C’s (given to Treasurer), NSW Dept Transport (safe driving seminar for parents of students learning to drive).

**Outwards:** CHS ($200 for Presentation Night)

**Treasurer’s Report**

In the Treasurer’s absence there was no report.

**Principal’s Report**

- **Student Achievement** – Awesome Higher School Certificate & School Certificate results!! Congratulations and thank you to all students and staff for their hard work and achievements.
- **Presentation Night** – This was a great success. Timing was excellent. Well done to Bev and Tony.
- **Staffing** – There have been a number of staffing positions filled in recent weeks, some permanent and some temporary.
- **Rural Cup** – Dates under review. Will know more next term.

**Change of venue for P&C meetings** – The possibility of moving the venue for future P&C meetings was raised. The Old Vic Inn may be suitable. To be discussed further at next meeting.

**General Business**

1. **Sports Shorts** – Narelle has been sourcing various types of sports shorts so a decision can be made as to which style will be adopted for the school sports uniform. All agreed that the school emblem/logo should appear and that they need to be mid-length. The possibility of purchasing a set of footy shorts for the school was also discussed. Narelle will investigate more so a decision can be made at the next meeting.

2. **NSW Transport** – Seminar for parents of learner drivers. Possibility of having one evening session (30 people max). Moved Phillip. Sec Leanne. Leanne to fax notification of interest.

**Deb Ball** – Trying to book 28/4 and 5/5. Cathy and Angela to check availability of the band and venue.

Meeting Closed at 6.35pm.

**Next Meeting to be held on Thursday 16th February 2012 at 5.30pm.**