



GILSTON STATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Finally, a **glorious day to run the cross country**. Eager students, applying their training to the challenge and more than 130 parents cheering them on created an impressive spectacle. A **Gilston Cross Country team selected** from the event will compete in the **District Cross Country**. Scott will be contacting parents of these students to share details.

Next week students from all schools in Australia will be participating in the National Assessment Program for Literacy and Numeracy (**NAPLAN**). The tests are based on the Australian Curriculum that underpins our instruction at Gilston. The results for individual students will be shared in a **report to parents later in the year**. The collective data will **provide us feedback on our school performance** in comparison to other schools.

There are **strict protocols** that must be followed regarding the **administration of the NAPLAN tests** to ensure consistency. Some of our students will be able to have **some minor adjustments to the conditions** of the tests based on their respective **disabilities**. **Parents have the right to withdraw** students from the assessments should they have a conscientious objection to their child's participation. **If you want to withdraw your child**, please **contact me** for the associated documentation.

One of the special things that occur at Gilston at **NAPLAN** is the **provision of breakfast** for those students participating. This breakfast is free and is served by parent volunteers. If you can help call Jemma on 0407 091 826.

Finally on the topic of NAPLAN, girls and boys are like us adults; they perform best when they are well-rested. Ensure that your child has a **good night's sleep** prior to the tests.

The connectedness that the **World Wide Web** (Internet) provides is astounding. It provides at our fingertips many advantages in research and communication. Unfortunately its **power can be abused** leading to socially unacceptable outcomes. It is your **role as a parent** to ensure your child's access to the **internet is supervised sufficiently** to ensure appropriate use at all times. My prompt to remind you of this vigilance comes from verified reports of inappropriate messages being shared by students from home devices within online gaming environments. At school we adopt a series of practices and filters to ensure safe and appropriate use of devices linked to the internet. For some **useful tips** please peruse the two pages at [this link](#).

The **safety and welfare** of our children is paramount and

FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday	7 May	Mother's Day stall Year 1, 2, 5 and 6
Friday	8 May	Last day payment for Year 3 excursion Numinbah
Monday	11 May	Final day for Book Club
Monday	18 May	P & C Meeting
Saturday	23 May	K's4kids Fundraising Walk / Fun Run
Monday to Friday	25 May to 29 May	Book Fair in the Library
Monday	1 June	Auditions begin for GPAC
Friday	5 June	Last day for recipes and drawings for cookbook
Friday	19 June	Gilston Performing Arts Competition
Saturday	12 September	Gilston School Community Fair 10.00am – 3.00pm

2015 Explicit Improvement Agenda

- Guided Reading
- Explicit Instruction – Short to long-term memory

Gilston Expectations

- Be a Learner
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful
- Be Safe

Current Attendance Levels

P	1	2	3	4	5	6
96.03	95.3	95.3	94.41	93.68	94.45	94.26

educating them about protective behaviours is something parents and schools undertake. Like all learning, regular **reminders are required** for children to become automatic in their responses to potentially dangerous situations. This [social experiment clip](#) highlights the need to ensure the need to have regular reminders.

It's happening again! The **great book covering exercise** will occur next Tuesday at 9:15am in the library. If you can help **cover some books** and don't mind some **delicious treats for morning tea**, call the ladies in the office to **let them know you will be joining the team**.

Week three of the Traffic Operation is **Enforcement**. **Expect a ticket** this week if you choose to disregard any of the **road rules** around our school. Police have been instructed to issue infringement notices for breaches.

Reminder: The Big Family Funanza May 16 Country Paradise Parklands 10.00am-4.00pm. More details in the community notices.

Sunday is our chance to let our mothers know of the impact they have had on our lives and the feelings we have for them. **Happy Mothers' Day to all Mums**.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Today you are you! That is truer than true! There is no one alive who is you-er than you! (Dr Suess)

NAPLAN Dates

Nationwide testing will be happening on 12, 13 and 14 May. If you have a child in years three and five could we ask that they aren't late on those days and arriving at school by 8.30am please. This will give them the opportunity to be ready to do their best.

Cross Country Day

A great day yesterday with all children doing what they do best. It was a joy to see so many just having a go, smiling and having fun. Wonderful effort everyone. Thank you to all the parents and family members who came to cheer the children along, I really enjoyed chatting with you. Thanks also to Mr Stavar and our teachers for controlling the event and making it fun for everyone.

Successful students know...

The path to being an honors student starts in toddlerhood. Here are some of the ways that parents of those good students set (and keep), their children going in the right direction:

Successful students know how to focus on their studies when it matters while also taking breaks when they need them. They can manage their time wisely, stick to meaningful study schedules, and make the most of their time in the classroom. In the process, **successful students** also know how to have a good time, and love gaining knowledge as much as they enjoy getting stellar grades.

Successful students know how to succeed because they've made their studies their top priority. Though it's important to make time for friends, family, extracurricular activities, and even some solo down time, you should never neglect the time you need to spend studying. If you have a big exam coming up and don't feel prepared, then you should probably skip the big party two days before it. If you're really behind on your French, then you may need to skip that new episode of Home and Away for the time being. This doesn't mean that you can never do the things you want to do but that you should recognize when studying should be at the top of your list. That said, you can't ignore everything in the world just so you can study. If a friend or family member is having a crisis, you can't ditch him or her just to study, either.

Be punctual. Develop the habit of judging time and **learn** how to arrive where you need to be on time. In fact, you should plan to be a bit early anywhere you go so you have time to get situated, focused, and ready to **learn** when you get there. Being punctual also will make your teachers like you and feel respected. Whether you have to take a test or have a study date with a friend, it's important to be on time if you want to be a **successful student**. A wise man once said, "Showing up is half the battle." If you can't commit to showing up and being on time, then you won't be able to **learn**.

Work honestly. This means you should do your own work, avoid copying, and avoid cheating at all costs. Cheating won't get you anywhere, and what may seem like a shortcut one day can actually get you into a lot of trouble the next. It's never worth it to cheat on a test, and you're far better off not doing well on an exam you're not prepared for than getting caught cheating. And even if you're not caught, cheating makes you think it's okay to take shortcuts when it comes to life and studying, and it can lead to some bad habits down the line.

Don't compare yourself to anyone else. **Successful students** succeed on their own terms. They don't care what their brother, neighbour, or friend does in school because they know that in the end, all that matters is their own success. If you get too bogged down in what other people are doing, then you're bound to be disappointed in yourself or to become so competitive that your mind gets poisoned. **Learn** to brush the others aside and to focus on doing the best that you can do.

Work on making incremental progress. If you want to be a **successful student**, then you shouldn't aim to go from a "C" to an "A" average. Instead, you should work on going to a "C+" and then a "B-," and so on, so your progress is manageable and so you don't get disappointed. **Successful students** know that it's hard to improve by leaps and bounds and focus on the details instead of jumping ahead to the final product. If you want to be a **successful student**, then you have to be okay with improving little by little. Be proud of yourself for every little bit of improvement that you make. Don't get bogged down by not getting the perfect grade you hoped for.

Success is how high you bounce when you hit bottom. (George S. Patten)

P & C NEWS

Our Cross Country Fun Run was held on Tuesday 5 April. Just a friendly reminder all Fun Run monies and sponsorship forms are due by Thursday 7 May and can be placed in the collection box at the Office. Prizes will be drawn the following week at assembly. Thank you for your support.

Each year the P & C provide **breakfast** for the children participating in the **NAPLAN testing**. We are looking for some **volunteers** to assist with the preparation and serving of the breakfast on 12, 13 and 14 May. If you are able to assist please contact Jemma on 0407 091 826

Uniform Shop - The P & C are looking to trial EFTPOS facilities in the Tuckshop for 4 weeks from 11 May. This will impact our in-store Uniform Shop EFTPOS facility on Friday mornings for the trial duration. I recommend ordering through FlexiSchools or popping down to see the lovely ladies on Tuesday afternoon for uninterrupted EFTPOS facilities. If Fridays are your only option then we will endeavour to provide the best possible service given the circumstances. The P & C thank you for your patience. The normal opening hours of the shop remain Tuesday 2.15-3.15pm and Friday 8.30-9.30am.

We are currently looking for some volunteers to assist in

the Uniform Shop. If you have an interest in helping on either day, please give Christene a call on 0432 275 195. We continue to encourage you to use "FlexiSchools" for online ordering. It is easy, convenient and the uniforms are delivered to your children to take home. Any questions or queries please feel welcome to give me a call Christene Dukes P & C Vice President 0432 275 195.

CROSS-COUNTRY AGE CHAMPIONS

	Boys	Girls
9 years	Carter Wilson Zac Riley	Kayley Moore
10 years	Soren Zwolsman	Ella McRobert
11 years	Andrew Prisley Hudson Paech	Hana McManus
12 years	Shaun Regan	Eloise Bentley

The top 4 runners will now progress to the District Primary School Cross country on 28 May 2015.

FINAL HOUSE POINTS

Latimer	499
Duncan	369
Hinze	365
Zimmerman	347

GILSTON PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITION- FRIDAY 19 JUNE

"GPAC" will be held at the end of term 2. This talent show has become an annual event here at Gilston and a way for our young performers to show off their skills. The competition takes in all of the areas of performing – dance, drama, singing, instrumental, poetry etc. and can be a group or individual item. The children are asked to complete an entry form to register for an audition (1 entry form per group). Entry forms are available from the music room and need to be returned on or before Friday 29 May. Auditions will be held in weeks 7 and 8, beginning on Monday 1 June. The 'best' 15 acts will be selected for the final to be held in the school hall. If you require further information please see Mrs Miller in the music room.

LIBRARY NEWS

Orders for **Book Club Issue 3** are due at the library by Monday 11 May. Thank you for your support May is "**Family Reading Month**". Please take the time to read with your child and encourage them to have a love of books and reading.

Our school will be holding a **Book Fair** from Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May. Details will be sent home next week.

Kathy Stone / Librarian

SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS

Chloe & Alfie Paul competed in the BMX National Championships last week. Between 2000 - 3000 riders raced.

On Thursday Alfie wore Queensland colours and raced against the top 3 of each state, making it to the final and coming 6th.

On the Friday the rain came down but racing still went ahead.

Chloe & Alfie both got through to the semi finals (top 16 of Australia).

Well done Chloe and Alfie.

HELLO FROM THE FAIR COMMITTEE...

Thank you to all the parents who have emailed their family recipes already. We are still in need of a lot more for the **Recipe book** to go ahead. Remember we would like any family favourite recipes, this may include Nana's yummy biscuits, Mum's delicious casserole, Auntie Joan's chicken pie anything your little one LOVES to eat! All recipes need to be emailed through no later than 5 June. Email to gilstonschoolcommunityfair@gmail.com.

We would greatly appreciate prizes for our **Cent Auction**. If you own your own business or are able to source some fantastic prizes please let us know.

Please make contact via email to gilstonschoolcommunityfair@gmail.com or call Trudy 0401911064

'Remember many hands make light work'.

TUCKSHOP REPORT

Thursday 7 May – Amé Seagrove / Karen Bowden

Ice Blocks – Karen Crabb

Friday 8 May – Teresa Evans / Help needed

Ice Blocks - Help needed

Monday 11 May – Karen Bowden

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Tuesday 12 May – Amé Seagrove

Ice Blocks – Karen Bowden

Wednesday 13 May - Help needed

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Thursday 14 May - Help needed

Ice Blocks – Karen Crabb

I would like to **thank** the following ladies for all their help last Thursday morning - Mel Wright, Trudy Brown, Danielle Graham and Tracey Zimmerman - thank you I really appreciate your time and effort.

Also we are offering **breakfast for all NAPLAN students**.

This will be done from the tuckshop. If you are able to volunteer your time from 8.15-9.00am, please come and see me.

Hot Chocolate is back - \$2.50 per cup and available all day.

Have a great week....Nicole Meesen- Tuckshop Convenor

COMMUNITY NOTICES

THE BIG FAMILY FUNANZA 16 MAY COUNTRY PARADISE PARKLANDS 10.00AM - 4.00PM

- A full stage program with some school ensembles, dancers, singers, musicians with most of the talent coming from right here in our local community.
- An amazing range of rides and activities for children and families, most of which is FREE (Courtesy of fabulous sponsors and generous service providers) these include; Jumping Castles, Rock Climbing Walls, Skill Test Arenas, Face Painters, GC Suns Kicking Gallery, Motorised Cars, Pony Rides, Games for Children and Parents, and some boomerang throwing
- A whole building set up as an interactive digital imaging activity
- A large Natural Disaster tent providing insight and information about Natural Disasters and how we can support communities like Nepal and Vanuatu
- Local Police and Rural Fire Brigade will be there
- We also have an Open House for other Nerang Country Paradise residents like the Nerang Community Garden, Sheilas Shack and Nerang Men's Shed
- An awesome range of food incorporating super fresh options
- Displays from some local schools and local Early Childhood Education and Care Services
- A small selection of local market vendors and some entertainers to provide some ambience over the food court area
- Plus plenty of other displays from our local community groups, City Council, charities and other support and service organisations

MERRIMAC SHS Enrolment Information Evening for students entering Year 7 in 2016 will be held on Tuesday 19 May at 5.30pm in the school hall. Enrolment packs will be available from Merrimac SHS Admin or at www.merrimacshs.eq.edu.au.

