PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
I lead this week with an expression of pride in our choir who yesterday outshone their competitors to claim first place in the Gold Coast Eisteddfod. I congratulate each of the students who participated for their dedication, persistence and team work. Their performance was very polished, their tone beautiful and their faces portrayed the essence of the pieces beautifully.

In lauding praise on the choir, I wish to single out Alison Miller and Marg Edgelow for their tutelage of the students to the level of proficiency that was on display Monday. The adjudicator with whom I spoke after the event made special mention of Alison’s work as a conductor and teacher. We are very fortunate to have such talent and dedication at our school. As for Marg, this year marked the 20th consecutive year she has accompanied the choir. Her own personal health challenges in the past few weeks were not able to derail her commitment to our choir. I commend both ladies for their valuable contributions on behalf of a very appreciative school community.

At Gilston our teachers continue to source supplementary activities to support the learning within the classrooms. Last week, our year 5 students met and conquered personal challenges at their camp, whilst next week our year 6 and 7 students will be travelling from the school to Lake Ainsworth and Canberra respectively. Through participation, students consolidate learning about aspects of the curriculum while furthering their personal growth.

I salute our staff for their ongoing commitment to these programs and thank them for the contributions to student learning beyond the school fence.

On 3 & 4 September we will be welcoming two trained auditors into our school to provide feedback about teaching and learning and discipline practices. As part of the process the auditors may contact you as a random sample of parents to gather your thoughts about a variety of aspects. I look forward to celebrating the positive features that are acknowledged and utilising the constructive feedback to inform our planning for the future.

On the topic of audits, I congratulate the tuckshop for the glowing audit report they received yesterday following their inspection. I commend current convenor, Nicole and previous staff for this result and recognise Narelle, as president of the P&C, for ensuring the business practices and food management practices that were required as part of the audit were in place. Gilston State School has an Enrolment Management Plan to ensure the population is maintained within the resources available. It was designed and activated following a sharp
In 2012, I will be refining the enrolment processes for 2015 and beyond to ensure we continue to provide high quality programs within the current physical facilities. I expect there will be limited opportunity for the enrolment of students from outside the catchment. Further information regarding the application process for parents of students residing outside the catchment boundary will be shared in the near future.

Gilston will be playing host to the students from Yelarbon State School in the final week of this term. Yelarbon is situated near Goondiwindi and about 35 students attend the school. Their Principal, Philippa Sly was a teacher at Gilston and when she asked to camp here while they participate in their itinerary around the Gold Coast we had no hesitation in extending a welcome. While their daily plans look busy I am hoping to arrange some interaction between the students and the Gilston students.

Gilston continues to be “richer” for the contributions of volunteers. This week I wish to recognise Adam and Drew for the installation of a data projector in the hall. Jemma has coordinated this project on behalf of the P&C leading to yet another feature that will benefit our students.

Thank you lady and gentlemen.

In closing this week I draw your attention to the attendance statistics on the left of the front page. It is apparent that the recent flu is challenging our target of greater than 95%. With your commitment I believe we can still reach our annual goal by ensuring 100% attendance on days your child is fit and well.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

How about that?

Cecile Bentley, another of our ex-students has recently applied and been accepted into the Queensland Academy for Health Sciences to continue study towards her goal of becoming a physiotherapist. Congratulations Cecile.

CONGRATULATIONS to year 7 student Jai Hoff on his selection in the Merrimac SHS High Performance Sport Summit Program in 2015. Well done Jai.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Year Five Camp at Tyaigum Ridge Retreat

Last week the year five classes went on camp. Tyaigum is situated high on the western side of the ‘Green Caldron’, an ancient volcano in the Tweed Valley, in full view of Mt Warning. It is a beautiful place with rainforests, creeks and waterfalls and as the children will testify to – steep up and down hill walking. We had a great time with all really getting along well at all times and participating in the activities. The things we did were bushwalking, rock hopping, gem fossicking, canoeing, flying fox, group initiative activities, bushfire cooking and archery. Another area were we all excelled in was making our beds and keeping our rooms neat and tidy, a trait I’m sure they will all want to carry on at home.

Eisteddfod Performance

Congratulations to our eisteddfod participants for their win on Wednesday night. Our thanks also go out to Mrs Miller for her wonderful skills in being able to extract and refine our children’s raw talent and to Margaret Edgelow for her timeless contribution to making it all happen.

Nerang RSL Presentation

Last week a group of students attended the opening of the Nerang RSL community display at Preece House. The display is to recognise the contribution and sacrifices families from our area made during this time and to teach younger generations about the impact of this war on our community and nation. Students were shown the results of their work and that of other schools, including an underground trench complete with sound effects recreated by Nerang State High students. The display will be opened to the public on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10.00am to 3.00pm, as well as during Sunday mornings to coincide with the local market. Appointments are also available to meet school and group bookings. The centre will be open for the next four years with major campaigns and events each year of the war highlighted at the centre to coincide with the centenary of that conflict. Students from Gilston State School involved in the project are, Jack Cochram, Tom Harding, Chelsea Holloway, Ewan Milne, Georgia Stansfield, Jordan Sweaney and Jessie Zimmerman.

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au
Safe School Zones
As you are aware staff from Nerang Police Station and Gold Coast Road Policing conducted a District Traffic Operation. Police attended each school within the Nerang Division co-ordinated with times of the school zones. Over the 5 days of this operation almost 300 vehicles were intercepted and breath tested with a disappointing number of vehicles detected committing traffic infringements. The highest speed detected during the week was 78km/h in a 40km/h zone that resulted in the issue of an infringement notice with a penalty of $531.00 and the loss of six demerit points.

The most common ticketable offences were parking related. There appears to be a common theme in all schools in relation to the lack of consideration for other motorists and parents. It appears that time poor parents and a desire for everyone to collect their children at 3.00pm are additional recurring themes. There is no excuse for double parking, parking on continuous yellow lines, parking in bus zones or on footpaths. When doing this you are obstructing views of other motorists and endangering the lives of the children. The most common excuse, “but I’ve always parked here” resulted in the issue of many infringement notices.
Additionally, 4 people were charged on 5 offences that included driving motor vehicles whilst unlicensed resulting in these individuals being required to appear in court. The results of this operation are unacceptable given that the safety of children around school zones needs to be given the most significant consideration by all motorists.
Future policing operations of a similar nature are currently being planned.
Regards
Peter Gordon
Senior Sergeant
Officer in Charge |NERANG

P & C NEWS
A reminder that applications close this Friday for the Casual Tuckshop positions currently available. You can apply via email to narellereed@gmail.com or feel welcome to call me on 0403046920 to discuss the position and I can answer any questions you may have. Monday night is the next P & C meeting, 7.00pm in the administration block staff room. As always all parents / carers are welcome and we encourage you to attend. You may be pleasantly surprised at what both interesting and relevant school agenda items are discussed.

The continued promotion of healthy food choices from our tuckshop is a focus with Nicole and her team increasing the number of home cooked items. Should you or your children have any suggestions, please email her direct, or better still pop by and have a chat. Email gilstonntuckshop@gmail.com.

Crossing supervisors - We have 1 new face on the crossing, but this still does not cover every day. If you can find 20 minutes to hold the lollipop sign on the crossing we all would be most grateful.

GILSTON CLUB NEWS

GILSTON CLUB NEWS

Fathers’ Day Stall – it seems like we have just done the Mothers’ Day Stall and now here comes the Father’s Day one! Please put these dates in your diary: Wednesday 3 September will be Prep-Year 3 and Thursday 4 September will be Years 4-7. All leftover stock will be available for sale on Friday 5 September. Gifts range in price from $1.00 to $7.00 and gift bags and cards will also be available for $1.00 each.

Artwork Fundraiser - In previous years, we have held a fundraiser which incorporates your child’s artwork onto calendars, diaries, mouse pads etc. and this year we are doing it again. All classes are in the process of doing their artwork and these will be available for viewing at the start of term four. If you prefer, instead of using your child’s artwork, a photo can be used. Keep watching this space for further information.

For all things Gilston Club, please contact us at gilstonclub@gilstonss.eq.edu.au

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Display - Book Week is next week. We have a wonderful display of all the 2014 short-listed books in our library now and we invite all parents and children to visit the library and look at them. Next week the winner in each section will be announced.

To celebrate Book Week, Tuesday 19 August from 6.00-7.00pm is National Reading Hour. The aim is to remind parents and caregivers that “sharing a book with a child for 10 minutes a day will give that child the best chance of becoming a good reader later in life”. For more information about the Reading Hour visit the website www.love2read.org.au

The theme for 2014 Book Week is “Connect to Reading/Reading to Connect”. We will be hosting activities every day next week to connect children to reading.

On Monday at the 1st break there will be a reading of the shortlisted books for the Picture Book category. In the 2nd break there will be a follow up activity about the books. On Tuesday we will be reading the Early Childhood Books and doing activities.

On Wednesday we will be talking about the short listed books in the Younger Readers category.

On Thursday, the Eve Pownall information books will be discussed.

On Friday it is the Book Parade in the morning. This will be followed by a visit from our local council librarians who will be running activities about the book week books for the rest of the day for students to enjoy.

We look forward to seeing you at our library next week and at our Book Week Parade.

Shelley Batson & Kathy Stone / Librarians
TUCKSHOP ROSTER
Thursday 14 August - Tanya
Ice Blocks – Karen
Friday 15 August – URGENT HELP NEEDED PLEASE
Ice Blocks – Kamila
Monday 18 August – HELP NEEDED
Ice Blocks – Tanya K
Tuesday 19 August - HELP NEEDED
Ice Blocks – Tanya K
Wednesday 20 August – HELP NEEDED
Ice Blocks – Tanya K
Thursday 21 August – Tanya
Ice Blocks – Karen
Friday 22 August – Anne / Tanya K
Ice Blocks – Kamila

If you can spare an hour or two this Friday, we really need help in the tuckshop from 9.00-11.00am. Please pop in and see me if you can help on Friday or if you can do an hour on the other days that we need help.

A special thank you to last Friday’s helpers Brenda, Jody, Kylie, Angela, Tanya, Alex and Christine. Without you our tuckshop wouldn’t function. Thank you again, I really appreciate it.

I need some more healthy food choices. If you have any suggestions please come and see me.

Have a great week. Nicole

COMMUNITY NOTICES
NERANG SCOUT GROUP GARAGE SALE – 3 Hope Street, Nerang, Saturday 23/8/14, 7.30am-3.00pm. Enquiries Danielle 0402 562 093 or email nerangscouts1@bigpond.com
MERRIMAC SHS ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING for parents of students entering Year 7 & Year 8 in 2015 is on Tuesday 19 August, 2014 and will be held in our School Library from 5.30pm–6.30pm for Year 7 and 6.30pm–7.30pm for Year 8.
BURLEIGH HEADS MOWBRAY PARK SLSC NIPPER SIGN ON Sunday 31/8/14 8.30am-12.00pm, 14/9/14 8.30-10.30am. For more information juniornominations@burleighsslsc.com.au.
KIRRA SLSC NIPPERS SIGN ON Sunday 24/8/14 and 14/9/14 Oasis Pool Club Banora, 9.00-11.00am. Further information at www.kirrasurfclub.com.au
ASHMORE LITTLE ATHLETICS SIGN ON – Boys & girls 5-16 years – 30/8/14 & 6/9/14, 12.00-3.00pm, Brian Johnston Athletics Track, Currumburra Road, Ashmore. More information at www.ashmorelittleas.com.au

TENNIS COACHING – classes conducted on Monday mornings from 8.00am. Cost is $17 per lesson, discounts for 3 or more children. All enquiries Rowan Hollands, Gold Coast Tennis Coaching 0411 867 971, rowan@gctenniscoaching.com.au or www.gctenniscoaching.com.au.

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au