



# GILSTON STATE SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER



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### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

National Assessment Program - **Literacy and Numeracy** is currently being administered throughout Australia. Students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 undertake assessments in **Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation, Reading, Writing and Numeracy** under consistent conditions to ensure the data collected is as reliable and valid as possible. I am very pleased to report that our **students**, with the reassurance of our teachers, have **engaged in the exercise without unhealthy levels of anxiety**. **Gilston students are used to testing** as we utilise information from tests to inform teaching programs and reporting to parents. The results of NAPLAN will be available to schools later in the year.

**Teachers will be gathering this Thursday** afternoon to extend their own knowledge and skills regarding the diagnostic assessments we administered in the first two weeks of this term. These **assessments in reading and number** have been undertaken online and consequently the nationally, norm-referenced data was available within hours. Our teachers will have the opportunity to learn with an expert as they **formulate programs based on the data collected**.

**Everyone at Gilston is expected to be a "supermodel"**. People watch people and consequently it is vital that the role models provided are of the highest standard. I respectfully remind all adults to ensure your behaviours are those that we want our students to exhibit at Gilston.

**Student progress reports** will be prepared this term for **distribution on the last Wednesday of the term**. Teachers utilise a wide range of sources to compile these documents and compose them according to our policy. In circumstances where, due to absences, teachers are unable to make informed judgments, ratings will not be included. In response to parent requests at a recent P & C meeting, this year the report will include a distribution graph to inform parents of their child's position in the year level. At the next meeting I will be seeking feedback from parents about distributing the reports via email in the future.

Our focus on **consolidation techniques** is having a marked influence on student learning. I **commend our teaching staff** for their commitment to reinforcing learning through the use of repeated slides and **congratulate them for the positive results** that have been attained.

**Decoding** text is a vital part of reading. At Gilston our students have demonstrated a high degree of skill in this element. **Comprehending** what has been decoded requires more skill

## FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday	15 May	Last day payment Year 5 Numinbah Valley excursion
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
96.02	95.18	95.46	94.6	93.67	94.61	94.44

and is the ultimate goal of reading. Our **teachers will not promote** a student through reading levels based on decoding alone. Instead they ascertain whether the child demonstrates sufficient skill in comprehension. A range of programs are utilised to **explicitly teach comprehension skills** including intervention programs with trained staff. If you want to know more about these strategies, please see your child's teacher in the first instance.

Currently there are several **families at Gilston** experiencing a range of **challenging circumstances**. I am proud that our community is supporting these people during these difficult times and wish them well with their respective battles. If you know of a family that is in need of some help, please bring their plight to my attention so we can do what we can to assist.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

## **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

### **Purpose of the tests**

The NAPLAN tests are conducted nationally over three days in May, yesterday, today and tomorrow. Most students sit for the tests in their own schools. Students who are travelling within Australia can sit for the tests at a school near their holiday location as a visiting student. The NAPLAN tests are designed to assess the skills of Australian students in literacy and numeracy. The tests provide data on the achievements of our students in Years 3, and 5 for reporting to parents/carers, and schools and for systematic reporting. It is a very important time for students, both in times just after the test (future learning pathways), and further into the future for opportunities after primary schooling (future life pathways). At this time we believe our students are prepared well and capable of meeting the needs of the 'big picture' stuff.

A final word; if you live long enough, you'll make mistakes. But if you learn from them, you'll be a better person. It's how you handle adversity, not how it affects you. The main thing is never quit, never quit, never quit.

### **Nerang State High Year 7 2016 Parent Information Evening**

This is to formally invite you to the first Parent Information Evening being held on Thursday 28 May in the Nerang SHS school hall. With doors opening at 5:30pm and concluding by 7:00pm, the evening is a fantastic opportunity to see why 2016 will be the most exciting year yet. You will have the opportunity to speak to Curriculum Leaders, learn about 2016 Junior Secondary initiatives, witness student performances, hear from the Junior Secondary School Captains and much more.

If you require further information, you can visit the website [www.nerangshs.eq.edu.au](http://www.nerangshs.eq.edu.au) or email Nerang State High School at [info@nerangshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:info@nerangshs.eq.edu.au).

### **P & C NEWS**

**NAPLAN Breakfast** - 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 Thursday 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 for the shop remain Tuesday 2.15–3.15pm and Friday 8.30–9.30am.

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.

I'd like to welcome Monica & Deb to the Uniform Shop volunteer team.

Any questions or queries please feel welcome to give me a call. Christene Dukes P & C Vice President Tel: 0432275195.

### **GILSTON CLUB NEWS**

Thank you to all the mums who came down to volunteer at the Mother's Day Stall. Without all the helpers it wouldn't have been the success that it was. The students had plenty of fun doing their shopping and I hope the mums had just as much joy in receiving their gifts.

Unfortunately, there has been a recall on the Oil Burner with Melts that was sold at the stall. If you received one of these please contact Mel on 0416 085 689 by 28 May.

Hopefully by now everyone has received a flyer about the new Entertainment Books but if not there are spare copies at the office on top of the payment box, along with a sample book to peruse. If you would like to order a book, please follow the instructions on the flyer.

For all things Gilston Club please contact [gilstonclub@gilstonss.eq.edu.au](mailto:gilstonclub@gilstonss.eq.edu.au) or Mel Wright on 0416085689.

### **HELLO FROM THE FAIR COMMITTEE...**

Thank you to the families who have taken the time to send in your recipes. PLEASE keep them coming, we need many more!!! Don't forget your drawings for the cover art competition; we have only had one entry so far so the odds of winning are high! Please drop these into the Tuckshop. The cover will be printed in black and white but if you want to colour a drawing feel free.

We will be sending out our own newsletter in the coming days. This newsletter will cover all the important information you all need to know so far. So keep an eye out!

Sadly from our call out last week for donations for the Cent Auction, we have received no responses. Please if you are in a situation where you can donate we would love to hear from you.

Email- [gilstonschoolcommunityfair@gmail.com](mailto:gilstonschoolcommunityfair@gmail.com)

Remember for this event to be a success we need everyone's involvement.

'Many hands make light work'

### **LIBRARY NEWS**

May is "**Family Reading Month**". To promote reading for families in our school we will be holding a **Book Fair** in our library from Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May.

Please visit our library and have a browse at all the great books. All purchases will aid fundraising for new library books for your children.

Thank you for your support.

Kathy Stone / Librarian

### **FREE - SATURDAY 23 MAY**

Enjoy walks along the seaside? Enjoy a bit of competition? Does your family enjoy a carnival atmosphere?

**Calling all families who said yes to all of the above:**

**There at least 46 schools on the coast competing in the Ks4kids fundraising walk/run this year and Clover Hill SS IS generally the winner every year! Can we knock them off their perch?**

**Yes we can!!!**

Register online. You can collect donations online with your very own fundraising page – it's automatically setup when you register, or use the collection receipt book. If everyone raises \$50 each- that's \$10 from 5 people- we can easily reach our goal.

**There is also an opportunity to win a penny skateboard** if you can raise \$200 before 23 May. There is one for each school to give away.

**You can register or donate online:**

<https://suqld.goregister.com.au/ks4kids2015/fundraise>

**When** Saturday, 23 May, 2015 – anyone can walk 3.5km!  
**Early bird prices have been extended.** Cost of Registration for Primary and High School Students \$10. All other participants \$20. Every registered walker will get a **FREE T-SHIRT**

**Purpose:** 'Ks4Kids' is proudly supporting SU Qld State School chaplains –YOUTH WORKERS that are working in our school communities. Funds raised go toward social/life skills/leadership programs, sponsoring kids to go on holiday camps, family support, community support, breakfast club, Christmas hampers, special guests/shows and resources etc.

Why not donate to someone walking/running for this great cause online.

Or better still...walk yourself and raise valuable funds to ensure these invaluable Chaplaincy services are maintained and expanded in our school communities. All funds raised will go directly to your school to support your school's chaplaincy work.

**Fun Run / Walk Options:**

30kms and 20kms –see website

10 kms from Palm Beach Parklands, cnr GC Highway & Throver Dve. (10.30am start)

3.5kms from Bilinga SLSC, 257 Golden Four Dve, Bilinga. (12.00pm start).

**Please arrive 20 min before scheduled start time.**

The four walks will culminate by finishing at Queen Elizabeth Park, Coolangatta where walkers will be greeted with a carnival like atmosphere including entertainment and activities for the family. The end zone will be open from 11.30am–2.00pm. An awards presentation for walkers will be from 1.40pm. Free return bus ride back to your starting point.

For a course map and more detail about the route and to register for early bird price please visit

<https://suqld.goregister.com.au/ks4kids2015/fundraise/>

**WEEK 6 IS CHAPPY WEEK!**

**Wednesday 27 May** - Bring in your **Lego competition** entries to Chappy's room for display and judging. Categories are - transport, construction and nature (no kit Lego allowed - originals only please).

First prize is a TOYS R US gift card!

First break-**FREE Magic show** with a values message - all welcome Year 3-6

**Win a Penny skateboard!** Open to Year 5 and 6 - bring in your selfless selfy photos or email to [sbond69@eq.edu.au](mailto:sbond69@eq.edu.au).

Make sure you get the person and yourself and your kind deed in the picture. The best one will win! **LAST CHANCE!**

**Thursday 28 May** - **Extra special breaky club**- mums and dads are welcome!

Winners of all prizes announced at assembly- Please take your Lego entries home.

**Friday 29 May** - Free accessories day with a yellow/gold and red/orange theme.

**FREE sausage sizzle** at first break after the eating bell.

## **TUCKSHOP REPORT**

Thursday 14 May - Help needed

Ice Blocks – Karen Crabb

Friday 15 May – Kristy Griffin / Help needed

Ice Blocks - Help needed

Monday 18 May – Karen Bowden

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Tuesday 19 May – Amé Seagrove / Karen Bowden

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Wednesday 20 May – Tracey Zimmerman / Sarah Cobern

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Thursday 21 May – Help needed

Ice Blocks – Karen Crabb

Friday 22 May – Teresa Evans / Help needed

Ice Blocks - Help needed

**TUESDAY 19 May is Kebab Tuesday.** We will be making fresh kebabs, choice of chicken, beef and Hawaiian (bacon & pineapple) with lettuce, tomato and cheese and a choice of sauce. Full kebabs will be \$6.00 and half kebabs will be \$3.50. If you would like to order one, please come and order at the tuckshop.

Please note that some prices have increased, so if you need a new price list come and get one from the Tuckshop or look on the Gilston State School website.

Have a good week, Nicole Meesen – Tuckshop Convenor

## **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**ROBINA STATE HIGH SCHOOL** will offer a number of **SCHOLARSHIPS** to our incoming Year 7 cohort for students excelling in Academic Excellence, Japanese Immersion, Sport, Leadership and The Arts. Applications are available on the school website [www.robinashs.eq.edu.au](http://www.robinashs.eq.edu.au) and close on Friday 26 June. For more information contact Head of Junior Secondary, Mr Ben Weeks [bweek12@eq.edu.au](mailto:bweek12@eq.edu.au).

### **EXCITING NEW HOT SHOTS TENNIS PROGRAM**

Tennis Australia Endorsed Program for primary students uses specially designed court sizes & equipment to help develop skills for life, making it A LOT OF FUN. Lessons start Tuesday the 19 May before school and will run every Tuesday & Thursday mornings 7:45am-8:45am at Gilston School Tennis Court. The cost will be \$72 per person for the remaining 6 Weeks (\$12 per lesson). Look forward to seeing you on the court. For details and bookings contact Jonathon 0488 696 939

Beginning 27 May **SOCCER X** will be running mini soccer leagues for boys and girls from U6's – U11's. You can register as a team or as an individual & be allocated a team by us. For more information & to register [WWW.SOCCER-X.COM](http://WWW.SOCCER-X.COM). If you have any questions please contact Justyn on 0451 162346

**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](http://www.merrimacshs.eq.edu.au).

**PARENTING TODAY'S TEENAGER** - An evening for parents at St.Michael's College, 20 May-7:00pm-8:00pm, Student Services Conference Room. Presenter Dr. Jeff Kemp J.P. (Qual), Churchill Fellow, St.Michael's College Counsellor, The purpose of the evening is to give parents the understanding and skills needed to parent today's Teenager in a complex ever-changing world. For catering purposes please advise Jodi of your attendance on 55302722 or by email: [j david@st.michaels.qld.edu.au](mailto:j david@st.michaels.qld.edu.au)

**YOGA CLASSES:** Kids and Adults classes available Monday evening: 6.00pm Thursday morning: 9.30am Frank Chaston Oval (Yoga room at the rear) Worongary Road - across the road from the school. Also Kids Yoga Workshops during school holidays. Contact Trudy 0401911064.

