PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Isabella, Taj, Alissa and Chloe will be representing Gilston at the "Speaking Out Competition" at Nerang State High School this evening. Each of these students has been selected from their respective year levels as the best public speaker on the topics provided. I thank our teachers for their input, especially Natalie Davies who has again worked with the students to prepare them for the competition.

Throughout this year we have utilised the Great Results Guarantee funds made available by the Queensland Government to provide additional programs and extend others to cater for the learning needs of students. In 2015 the Queensland Government is investing an additional $183 million in Great Results Guarantee funding for state schools. Here at Gilston our estimated 2015 allocation is approximately $190000 which will support us in continuing our work. If you’d like to know more visit www.education.qld.gov.au/resultsguarantee.

"Prestigious" is how the compère described the award that Gilston’s choir had received in being recognised as the best choir overall for the Gold Coast Eisteddfod. The Musicale in which they performed on Sunday consisted of the best of a wide range of sections from the Eisteddfod. Our students proudly displayed their talents under Alison’s guidance impressing the large crowd in attendance.

Reading is a priority at Gilston as it is a cornerstone for the development of literacy skills. How important is it? For those of you who are statistically oriented, I have attached a document with a table to this newsletter that compares three hypothetical student examples and their respective outcomes.

In conversations with beginning, and continuing students’ parents I promote the importance of speaking and listening as foundations for literacy. Our Department has released an app (iPhone and android) entitled S.P.E.A.K. to assist parents. The free app targets children aged 0-6 and includes a range of information, activities and ideas. I would be keen to hear your feedback about the app.

Thank you to those who have completed and returned enrolment forms along with proof of residence and child’s date of birth. Your prompt attention to this important process is appreciated. If you are yet to submit this documentation, please do so by 24 October.

The Enrolling Families project at Gilston has been recognised by a range of external bodies for the support it provides both families and their students in the transition to school. One of the key functions of the process is to learn as much as possible...
about students to ensure we are best positioned to provide a suitable learning environment. Transition reports from early learning centres are an integral part of the information gathered and their content is valued highly. Similarly, all reports from specialists including paediatricians, psychologists, therapists etc. assist us with our preparation. Please ensure you provide all available information on enrolment.

The library is rapidly morphing into an art gallery as we prepare for the Family Arts Night next Friday. Two and three dimensional pieces will be displayed throughout the space for the enjoyment of attendees while a selection of performing arts will be on show in the hall for our enjoyment. The evening commences at 5.00pm and all families are welcome. I look forward to celebrating our students’ artistic talents with you.

I need someone to co-ordinate the catering for the evening (ordering, cooking and selling sausages, bread and drinks, etc). Please let me know tomorrow if you can help.

Students at Gilston participate in a wide range of activities outside school including sporting, cultural, artistic and civic. I have two examples this week, firstly Eloise for her achievement in one of her chosen pursuits, Cub Scouts. Eloise was presented with the Grey Wolf Badge, the highest award possible for a Cub Scout. She has subsequently graduated to the ranks of Scout. Secondly Alisha, a young lady who left her mark in Taekwondo at the Australian Martial Arts Championships on Sunday. Alisha is the State Champion in Points Sparring and Sword Combat and placed third in Sumo and 4th in Freestyle Sparring. As a consequence of these successes Alisha has earned the right to compete in the Australian titles in Sydney next month. Another two examples of persistence and dedication from our students.

Stay safe and keep smiling.
Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT  
Pupil Free Day Monday 20 October  
Just a reminder that Monday is a pupil free day.

Nerang State High School – HPE Academic Excellence Day  
On Tuesday, four students from Year 6 embraced the opportunity to attend Nerang State High School to participate in the HPE Academic Excellence Day. Students found the day to be a valuable learning experience, enhancing their skills and knowledge in the area of Health and Physical Education.

Talk about it – Life Education program  
Today, students from Years 5-7 commence ‘Talk about it’, a program delivered by Life Education Queensland that focuses on knowledge development in the area of Sexual Health and Relationships. Students will benefit from attending health education by developing their knowledge to enhance their own and others’ health. The P & C and The Gilston Club have fully subsidised this valuable program. Their support is greatly appreciated.

Year 1 Technology task  
Students from 1W have been busy designing, making and reflecting on a puppet. As part of the design process, students were required to draw and label their design, make their puppet out of a variety of materials ensuring that they adhere to their plan during construction phase and finally reflect on their puppet. Students have done an amazing job!

Tip of the week – Balancing your child’s technology use  
Today’s generation live in a world with an atmosphere of gadgets, digital devices and breathe technology. As a parent, these tips below have been useful in finding a balance for my children to use technology efficiently and effectively.

Set clear guidelines for kids to follow. Like all rules for children, the clearer and simpler, the better.

Set time limits. A good rule of thumb for teens is two hours of screen time per day, including schoolwork. For primary school children, it’s less. You should emphasize no screen time just before bedtime. Dr. Angela Viniarski, a paediatrician, recommends no screen time within two hours of bedtime. The brain, she said, is stimulated by the electronic activity, whatever it may be. A shower or warm bath, and a good book (the old fashioned kind, with pages), or listening to quiet music can be helpful for down time before bed.

Set place limits. Ban electronic screens at dinnertime, for example, or when the family is having a discussion or enjoying family time together. Many families find that for younger kids, it’s best if the computer is in the family room – not in the kids’ rooms – and used only when an adult is present, monitoring.

Schoolwork comes first. Study and chores come before socializing and games.

Stress privacy. Explain to your children why you won’t permit them to give out personal information about themselves or their family, to meet with strangers they’ve “met” online, or to spend money online. Just be realistic and firm.

Stress common sense. It is good sense not to allow downloading or uploading – music, movies, or photos for instance – without your permission. Show kids how their online words and pictures are, for all intents and purposes, permanent. Just as we watch what we say in our speech, we need to do the same thing online.

Be a role model. You’re a role model in everything you do and say as a parent, including using technology. Let the kids see you using your computer, phone, and other devices to make your life easier, more efficient, and more fun. Show how you’re in control of it, not the other way around: i.e. if you say no gadgets at dinner time, don’t pick up the phone yourself.

News from PCYC  
PCYC will be open from 6.30am-6.00pm for the Pupil Free day on Monday 20 October. We will be based at school and our theme is “Spooky Day – Halloween comes early to PCYC”. Dress up or bring some scary stuff along. The day will run as during Vacation Care. Booking forms available in the hall and email lisa.monteith@pcyc.org.au for any further information. N.B Vacation Care fees will apply.

GILSTON CLUB NEWS  
Kids Artwork Fundraiser – Thanks to all our helpers this week, up nice and early to set up at the rotunda so all parents can have a look at their child’s artwork. We will be posting all orders off this Monday 20 October so if you haven’t yet ordered yours, place it in the box in the office by this Friday. No orders will be taken after this date.

Trivia Night – only 3 ½ weeks to go and as yet, we have not received any table bookings or donated prizes. If you are in the midst of planning your table and are definitely planning to come, I need to hear from you via our email address or my phone number by this Friday! A lot of planning goes into this event and we cannot justify spending all our time planning, only to have to cancel it at the last minute due to lack of numbers. Tables do not
have to have 10 people on them, but that is the maximum number! We need a minimum of 8-10 tables to make this night worthwhile. Our email address is gilstonclub@gilstonss.eq.edu.au and my number is 0414912217. This is a really fun night, but needs your participation to make it so! Thanks… Lisa - Chairperson

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC NEWS! - RECRUITMENT FOR 2015
As you will be aware recently the Department of Education, Training and Employment announced a major change that will support our internationally recognized Instrumental Music Program. From 2015 - Year 4 students will be able to study Woodwind, Brass and Percussion instruments at primary school for the first time. Previously, only students from Year 5 and up have been eligible. This is very exciting news for our thriving music program!

The recruitment process at our school is about to commence with Mrs Miller (Classroom Music Teacher) testing all Grade 3 and 4 students (and any interested students from Grade 5 who may now wish to participate). They will be tested for musical aptitude and a list compiled of the successful students who are keen to join our school’s Instrumental Music Program and later on the Junior (Beginners) Concert Band.

Students that do well in this test will receive an “Expression of Interest” form asking you to nominate 3 instruments you would like your child to be considered for. Actual testing on these instruments will then take place.

Successful students (and Parents) will then receive a comprehensive Information Pack including the students selected instrument.

Recruitment will then finalise with a Parent Information afternoon (this date/time will be advised in your information pack) in preparation for 2015.

We look forward to discovering Gilston’s future musicians!

Steve Braxter
Instrumental Music Teacher

SWIMMING CARNIVAL YEAR 4-7
This year’s carnival will be held on Friday 28 November. The students will travel by bus to All Saints indoor swimming pool and compete in a variety of events.

To add to the fun, we are having a Crazy Hat theme.

A pre-ordered food menu will be available soon.

A reminder that swim caps are compulsory and are available in house colours at the tuckshop for $7.00

This year 9 year olds in Year 3 can compete at the carnival provided they are members of a swim club or are exceptional swimmers. This must be pre-arranged with me prior to Thursday 30 October when payment is due.

We look forward to another great event.

Scott Stavar – PE Teacher

YEAR 6 & 7 BEACH GALA DAY
On Monday 1 November our Year 6 and 7 students will be participating in a Beach Gala day with Tallebudgera, Nerang and Coolangatta State Schools. The students will participate in various sports, the aim of which is to have fun, improve skills, interact with other schools and develop team and school spirit.

The students will arrive at Kirra Beach and start their games at 10.00am. All parents, relatives and friends are welcome to attend and support, assist and cheer on the Gilston teams.

Remember to bring a fold up chair

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Scott Stavar – PE Teacher

GILSTON ARTS NIGHT
Gilston Arts Night is just one of the great events linking our school with the local community. Friday 24 October, week 3 of Term 4 it is on again and everyone is invited to view the amazing art work your children and their teachers have worked so hard to get ready.

This year we have a fantastic local artist Nicholas Broughton judging the artwork, he is based in Tallai and has kindly offered us his time. You can view his artwork at the following link http://www.njbart.com/

We are also asking YOU to help with the judging by choosing a “People’s Choice Award”. When you come to view the artwork you will be given the opportunity to choose your favourite piece of artwork, and one lucky student will win this award. Voting opens Thursday 16 October (week 2) and closes Wednesday 22 October (week 3). So come along and get voting.

See you at the Arts Night!

DENTAL VAN
Final reminder to make a check-up at the Dental Van prior to school finishing for the year. Please phone 1300 300 850 to schedule an appointment.

LIBRARY NEWS
Scholastic Book Club orders for Issue 7 are due back by Wednesday 22 October. Payments are made either online or by phone, so no cash comes to school, only the order forms. Thank you.

Overdue Books – invoices for overdue books will be issued this week. Please contact the librarians if you have any questions about the invoices. Thank you for your cooperation in helping to keep our library resources up to date.

Book Fair – this term, the library will be hosting a Book Fair. Please mark your calendar from 10-24 November. This is an opportunity to do some early Christmas shopping with a great range of quality books available. All money raised will give our school Rewards Points to spend on resources for our library.

Library Monitors – thank you to the library monitors for doing a great job each week.

Quote of the Week – “Any book that helps children to form a habit of reading, to make reading one of their deep and continuing needs, is good for them”. Maya Angelou

Shelley Batson/Kathy Stone - Librarians

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
With everyone getting caught up in the end of year preparations and work commitments leading up to Christmas, we are short on volunteers. If you can spare an hour or two on any day in the mornings, please contact me, Nicole on 0412 096 720 or come and see me at the tuckshop.

Thursday 16 October – Alex

Ice Blocks – Karen

Friday 17 October – Brenda/Kristy/Theresa

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Monday 20 October – PUPIL FREE DAY

Tuesday 21 October – Help needed

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Wednesday 22 October - Help needed

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Thursday 23 October – Help needed

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Friday 24 October – Help needed

Ice Blocks – Help needed

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au

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Scott Stavar – PE Teacher
I would like to thank two volunteers, Kamila and Tanya Bates, for all their support and help over the years and wish them all the best on their new adventures.

COMMUNITY NOTICES
NERANG STATE HIGH SCHOOL BRING YOUR OWN DEVICE (BYOD) INFORMATION EVENING. Our students will be able to bring their own laptop to school in 2015. Information Evening for parents of Year 7-12 students in 2015 will be held on Wednesday 22 October and 5 November 2014. Doors open from 5.00pm in school hall. Presentation 5.30-6.00pm, Q & A session 6.00-6.30pm.

TEennis 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.