Teachers have been careful to communicate details pertaining to their classrooms and the year ahead during the parent-teacher meetings. The high quality of the presentations I have seen is indicative of the organisation each teacher brings to their space. We are blessed to have a team of teachers whose priority is clearly the learning of their charges. Our Preps are leading the way in attendance statistics this year with over 98%. Year 1 and Year 4 are close behind. Ensure you have your child at school on time each day unless they are ill.

It was a pleasure to present badges to the newly-elected house captains last week. These students have been charged with the responsibility of leading their respective houses in a range of activities throughout the year. I congratulate them and look forward to their contributions. Our house captains for 2015 are:

- **Latimer**: Chelsea Moore, Brayden Taylor
- **Duncan**: Summer Reeves, Daniel Talbot
- **Zimmerman**: Dakota Bounds, Shaun Regan
- **Hinze**: Montana McKenzie, Zade Roy

The Junior Secondary Concept is new in high schools with the inclusion of Year 7 this year. I note that within the leadership of the Junior Secondary at Nerang SHS, there are two ex-Gilston students: Marcos Gaudens-McMullin (Captain) and Taylor Watts (Prefect) – another example of the solid leadership foundations upon which we are focused.

Our tuckshop is the envy of many schools in our region. The recent extension and upcoming appliance upgrades make it a very serviceable space for creating healthy eating options for our children. The tuckshop isn’t about the facilities alone. It is about the energy and drive of the convenors and the volunteers within the building. If you can see yourself being part of a team that is planning big things in healthy eating this year, contact Nicole in the tuckshop. Your contributions will be welcomed.

The first delivery of senior shirts has arrived and are available through the uniform shop during regular opening hours. Limited numbers are also available through the tuckshop. I look forward to the spectacle that will be created by the addition to the senior classes.
The Gilston School Community Fair will be held in September this year. This fete-style event promises to be an attraction for both young and young at heart. The committee will be seeking additional assistance soon.

**A working bee will be held on 15 March from 8:00–10:30am.** Mulching gardens that were eroded during storms earlier this year will be a prime focus. If you haven’t attended a working bee before I can assure you it is a social event that culminates with some fizzy drinks and sausage sizzle. The time you give along with other parents will make an immediate difference. The Gilston Club’s AGM was held last week and I welcome the new executive members. With the changing of the guard, I wish to recognise the significant contribution of Lisa Cochrain as Chair for the past two years. On behalf of our community I extend thanks to Lisa for her leadership.

**Reminder: Early collection of students from school requires validation.** Students are required by law to be at school between 8:55am and 3:00pm. Repeated early collections will attract letters to justify the occurrences in accordance with legislation. Stay safe and keep smiling. Bruce

**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

**School Excursions**

During this term there are various excursions taking place linked to the curriculum. It is imperative that payments are made in a timely manner to ensure your child is able to participate in these educational excursions. Payments can be made on-line or via the office on Thursday and Friday only.

This week was the first P & C meeting for 2015. It is going to be a fabulous year with the major fundraising event being the Gilston School Community Fair scheduled for 12 September. Senior shirts are now available to purchase from the uniform shop and a working bee has been scheduled for Sunday 15 March for those who would like to assist. The more the merrier!

**Consolidation of concepts – transferring information from short term to long term memory**

Students are taught a range of concepts throughout their schooling years. In order for them to retain these concepts and transfer them from their short term to their long term memory and free up their working memory, students require continual exposure. Students are exposed daily to these core concepts through the use of ‘slides’, allowing them to actively engage in teaching and learning process and to assist in this knowledge development and transfer.

**Why is it important to talk to our children?**

When we talk with our children we are teaching them how to talk, listen and interact with others. So, your child could be showing you something they’ve done, asking you a question or talking about their day – these brief chats are all chances for your child to learn.

**Communication for Children should be positive and strengths-based**

- **Build self-confidence as well as competence**
  A confident child might not only learn better, but will more likely want to learn more. In most development communication to date and specifically in communication for children, the focus has been almost solely on raising awareness and building skills. However, where children repeatedly see and hear that they are valued and important, they learn to build a foundation for critical thinking and a lifetime love of learning. More important than what children need to learn is what they can be. Self-confidence promotes coping skills, solution-finding and the full potential of every child regardless of their situation. Self-confidence is displayed in resilient individuals who show resourcefulness, perseverance, optimism, determination and creativity.

- **Use positive modelling**

Children and adults learn best from repeatedly seeing and hearing actions or ways of thinking that we would like them to emulate or “model,” however a lot of communication presents negative models (such as violence, name-calling, unsafe or unhealthy behaviours and practices), with brief messages at the end telling audiences not to do what has been shown. Rather than telling children what not to do and portraying only the problem itself, it is more effective to portray positive models for what we want children to do (such as being generous, fair, honest, caring and responsible) to reinforce positive action and thought.


Until next time, Kelly Clark

**P & C NEWS**

We held our first P & C meeting of the year on Monday night with great success and it was fantastic to see some new faces around the table. We welcome new ideas and contributions, so feel free to come along to the P & C meetings to have your say and see what is happening around the school. From the discussions on Monday night I can certainly say we are off to a flying start for 2015. We look forward to sharing what the P & C and Gilston Club are planning in coming editions.

The P & C are looking for some more volunteer helpers to assist us in a number of areas of the school from the Tuckshop and Uniform Shop to some Lollipop People to assist with keeping our children safe and the traffic flowing nicely at the end of our school day. If you are keen to help and are able to assist please feel free to give me a call for more information.

We have received a quantity of our new Senior shirts and these are currently available through the Uniform Shop at $30 each. We have more stock on order and are expecting the next shipment in 4-6 weeks. There has been an unexpected delay with our orders and the P & C thank you for your patience.

**Uniform Shop - Our House shirts will be arriving this week and back in stock in the Uniform Shop as of this Friday.**

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. The normal opening hours for the shop remain Tuesday 2.15–3.15pm and Friday 8.30–9.30am.

Christene Dukes P & C Vice President Tel: 0432275195.

**GILSTON CLUB NEWS**

Hi Everyone,

Following our AGM last Wednesday I am pleased to introduce you to our new committee members for 2015. We have a new President: Trudy Brown, and Secretary: Paula Black and they join our Vice-President: Mel Wright and Treasurer: Brenda Flemming (both of whom have agreed to stay on from last year). After 4 years on the committee, it is time for me to step down and I would like to thank these girls, not just for stepping up to these positions, but for the support they have given me in my
role as President over the past 2 years. This is a great committee and I urge all parents to come to at least one meeting this year and see what we are about. Fundraising doesn’t just happen. It takes time and energy, but the saying of “Many hands make light work” is certainly true, especially in volunteer organisations. As there is a fete this year, there won’t be a lot of fundraising events but there will still be the Mother’s Day & Father’s Day Stalls and maybe one or two other events. These all need volunteers. This is a great school and the Gilston Club love to purchase resources and other items that benefit our kids, but we can only do so through the fundraising that is done. Last year we raised $15,000 and if you look at the attachment to this email, you will see where some of that money was spent. We have quite a bit left over for this year and are looking for ways to spend it. On that note, I wish to thank everyone who helped me, the girls mentioned above, Nicole Meesen, Narelle Reed, Jemma Baldwin, Bruce Langes, Graeme Weatherburn, Kelly Clark and most definitely Pat & Roz in the office who never made me feel I was hassling them when asking for assistance. Please keep your eye on this space for upcoming meeting dates and for all things Gilston Club, please contact gilstonclub@gilstonss.eq.edu.au.

Regards
Lisa – Outgoing Chairperson

EISTEDDFOD CHOIR
Auditions are now taking place for the eisteddfod competition choir. It is open to students in Years 3-6. Any interested children should write their name on the sign-up sheet on the music room noticeboard, or see Mrs Miller for more information.

LIBRARY NEWS
Borrowing for students opened last week. Please encourage your children to return their books every week and choose a new one to read. We have some great books in our library and by using this service, your child can read a book each week for free. Please remember to read with your child every day and share some valuable time with them.

Book Club orders are now open. The closing date for orders will be this Friday 20 February. Please do not send cash to school. You make the payment either by credit card by phone Freecall 1800 557 908 or online scholastic.com.au/payments.

Send the completed order form with the receipt number to the school library and place in our Book Club order box. We will distribute the books to students/parents when they arrive at school.

Family History WW1 – Centenary of Anzac Day
I have been approached by the Nerang RSL to ask our families if they have any ancestors who fought in WW1 to contact me in the library. If you have any photos, family history about their service in the war we would be very interested to speak to you. If there are any relatives of the Viewers family in particular, could you please contact me. Thank you. Kathy Stone / Librarian

TUCKSHOP REPORT
Thursday 19 February – Help needed
Ice Blocks – Karen
Friday 20 February – Kristy Griffin/Jade Bowden
Ice Blocks - Help needed
Monday 23 February – Alex
Ice Blocks - Help needed
Tuesday 24 February – Help needed
Ice Blocks - Help needed
Wednesday 25 February – Help needed
Ice Blocks - Help needed

Next Tuesday, 24 February, will be our Sushi Day. If you would like to order, please grab a Sushi Order Form from the Tuckshop. All orders need to be placed on Monday before 10.00am.

We are looking at having a monthly Sushi Day depending on orders.

Homework Satchels have been ordered and delivery will be in approximately 5 weeks.
If anyone has any healthy food options that we can add to our school menu, please come and see me in the Tuckshop.

Have a great week.
Nicole Meesen / Tuckshop Convenor

COMMUNITY NOTICES

CLARINET FOUND outside the school. Please contact the school office if you have lost it.

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.

Rhee Taekwondo class is offering a free uniform with any new members through the month of February. Classes are run at the school on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. For more information please contact David Elton: Phone 0406443658 Skype: 0406443658

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au