PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

It was mums and dads in school yesterday as the first information session for Enrolling Families was presented. The participants learnt about the program for the year and a great deal from a range of personnel from agencies that can support families prepare for school. I commend all attendees for their commitment to ensuring they are well-prepared for their child’s entry to Prep in 2015. If you wish to apply for enrolment for your child in 2016 and haven’t already done so, please contact the ladies in the office immediately. The ladies are also generating a list of names of students we expect in 2017 to assist our forecasts.

It is my pleasure to introduce the new Executive of the Parents and Citizens Association. At the Annual General Meeting Monday night the following people were elected: President: Jemma Baldwin, Vice Presidents: Christene Dukes and Trent Firmin and Treasurer Caroline Crawford. The position of Secretary was not filled during the meeting as there was no one in attendance to formally accept nomination. This position will be called again at the general meeting next month. I am confident that the 2015 team will be able to build upon the work of the 2014 team of Narelle Reed, Christene Dukes, Trent Firmin and Mel Andrews.

What a difference a few hours make… The willing workers at our working bee on Sunday have transformed gardens with mulch and plants, cleaned part of the tennis courts, mended some fencing, removed some offending trees and plants and cleaned out the Prep shed. I wish to make special mention of Jeff Bennett for his skill and machinery. The volume of mulch that was relocated to gardens would not have been possible without his loader and backhoe.

The Voluntary Contribution of $70 per child is due now. This P & C instigated collection is annually ratified. Its purpose is to offset costs associated with excursions, subscriptions to educational software and a grant per child to be expended at the discretion of the classroom teachers. The term voluntary is required by legislation. If you have not already made this payment this year, please do so as soon as possible. There is a maximum payment per family of $140.

Celebrating significant student success within and beyond the school is something we have, and are keen to continue. To tighten the process of collecting information pertaining to sports, artistic and cultural achievements outside school please note the following procedure. For all items relating to sports, send a message detailing the achievement via email to Scott

FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Year 5 Surf Awareness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Last day for Book Club orders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>School Disco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>Sponsorship money due for Cross Country Fun Run</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Cross-Country</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Gilston Club Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>K’s4kids Fundraising Walk / Fun Run</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Gilston School Community Fair</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Attendance</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>96.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>95.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>96.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>94.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>94.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>95.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>95.69</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Stavar’s attention. For all items relating to artistic and cultural attainments, direct the email to Alison Miller’s attention. I expect that adhering to this process will ensure we recognise all students’ achievements.

Reminder: Supervision of students prior to 8:55am and after 3:00pm is the responsibility of parents. Please ensure the arrangements you make are maintaining your child’s safety and wellbeing. Should a child on site compromise the safety of themselves or others or, jeopardise the good order of the school, parents will be directed to make alternative arrangements.

The fun run information and sponsorship sheets should have made their way home by now. The P & C have targeted our cross country around which our students can gather sponsorship from family and friends. Our Instrumental Teacher, Steve Broxton will be on long service leave for the last week of the term. I have been advised that he will not be replaced during this time so there will not be Instrumental Music on the last Thursday of the term.

Stay safe and keep smiling
Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Thank you Gilston Club
Reading is an integral part of education. Enhancing students’ reading ability and comprehension skills forms part of our Explicit Improvement Agenda for 2015. On behalf of Gilston School, I would like to publicly thank The Gilston Club for donating over $3000 worth of guided reading books to support our reading program. Your support is greatly appreciated!

Education Queensland – Speech-Language Pathologist
Communication is essential for learning, literacy and numeracy development, interacting with others, participation in all class and school activities, and positive self-esteem.

Speech-language pathologists in state schools provide services for students with special needs in communication who are experiencing barriers to learning. These students require assistance to develop competencies in the areas of communication, language, learning and literacy.

At Gilston, teachers from Prep to Year 6 have taken the time to collect a range of information on their students who are experiencing difficulty in the area of communication. Over 60 students were identified as requiring support in some form or another to enhance their communication.

These identified students were discussed at length with the Regional Senior Speech-Language Pathologist, school-based Speech-language pathologist, Special Education teacher and Deputy Principal and prioritised based on their individual communication needs.

Some of the support that will be offered at Gilston during 2015 to students with high needs include:

- Individual or small group support with our Speech-Language Pathologist
- Facilitated Programs with a trained Teacher Aide
- Support-a-talker with a trained Teacher Aide
- In-class support by the teacher

Help needed!
Our school has been donated a 180 inch screen to replace the existing white fabric screen currently used to project images in the hall. We are seeking volunteers to line the wall and carpenters to construct a frame to enable the screen to sit out from the wall. If you are able to assist, please contact the office.

Working Bee
Thank you to all of those who have assisted during the working bee that was held last Sunday. The morning was very productive and the school grounds look fantastic!

Until next time,
Kelly Clark

P & C NEWS
Following the AGM Monday, the P & C are pleased to welcome the new faces with the executive for 2015 being:

President – Jemma Baldwin.
Co-Vice Presidents - Trent Firmin & Christene Dukes,
Secretary – Due to absences will be finalised at next meeting.
Treasurer – Caroline Crawford.

In recognising the new, we also thank those stepping down.
Any honorary role requires time and commitment and, as with each and every year, these people have freely given their time to support all our children.

Your continued support of the P & C is warmly welcomed, and you are encouraged to participate as the benefits to the children and school as a whole are significant.
Kind regards, Christene Dukes P & C Vice President
Tel: 0432 275 195

CROSS COUNTRY FUN RUN

The P & C Committee in conjunction with this year’s Cross Country are hoping to raise much needed funds for your children and put back into the school throughout the year with the Fun Run.

A letter and sponsorship form went home last Friday with each child. If your child has not received this, then please check with their teacher or see the helpful staff in the office. This year, all returned, completed forms and funds will go into the draw to win prizes.

All sponsorship donations are appreciated and should be returned on or no later than 30/31 March, prior to the Cross Country Fun Run being held on Wednesday 1 April 2015.

All information & prizes available are outlined in the letter accompanying your child’s sponsorship form. Thank you for your support P&C Committee.

COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

The idea of having a Community Noticeboard is to get our school community involved in What’s On and giving the parents who own businesses and their children that attend Gilston State School a chance to open themselves up to new clients within the School and Community at large by advertising in our Community Noticeboard on a monthly rotational basis.

All promotions and advertising must be first granted approval by a P & C Executive. P & C reserve all rights on placement of advertising.

For more information a flyer has been included at the end of this newsletter. For more information please email Trent Firmin P & C Vice President, trivermel@bigpond.com

UNIFORM SHOP

With the cross country event drawing closer, your children will soon need their house shirts. We are fully stocked in anticipation. For all our new families who are unsure of which house their child/children have been allocated, be sure to check with your child’s teacher.

Take your support to a whole new level - the Uniform Shop has a selection of adult size house shirts which will be available to parents and carers at no cost. These will be distributed on a first in first served basis and will be available only while stocks last. Come and see the ladies in the Uniform Shop and any remaining stock will be available on the day.
Uniform Shop opening hours are Tuesday 2.15–3.15pm and Friday 8.30–9.30am. FlexiSchools online ordering is easy, convenient and the uniforms are delivered to your children to take home.


Parents awaiting the arrival of our Homework Satchels, we are expecting that they will be arriving in a week. Keep your eye on the newsletter as we will announce availability here. Thank you again for your patience in this matter.

Christene Dukes P&C Vice President Tel: 0432 275 195

HELLO FROM THE GILSTON CLUB,

Things have been quiet on our front but will be picking up next term with the Mothers’ Day stall happening in the third week. Many extra hands are needed on these days to serve all the students so if you have some time to give and want to come in and watch the delight as the kids choose their gifts please contact us.

We have our next Gilston Club meeting on Wednesday 29 April and always love to see new faces so why not pop down to the library and have a cuppa with us while we chat about any upcoming events, agendas etc.

Due to her growing commitments with the Fair Committee, Trudy has stood down from the position of President of the Gilston Club. Consequently this position will be filled at our next meeting. In the meantime Mel Wright is acting president and can be contacted for any matters regarding Gilston Club. The email is gilstonclub@gilstonss.eq.edu.au or you can call Mel on 0416 085 689.

CROSS COUNTRY

This year’s event will be held on Wednesday 1 April. Races begin at 9.15am and will proceed from youngest grades to oldest. All competitors will receive a house point and an ice block when participating.

Any 10-12 year olds who place in the top 4 will represent Gilston State School at the District Cross country on Thursday 28 May, 2015.

We look forward to a fun and successful carnival

Cross Country Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Prep</td>
<td>9.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>9.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td>9.50am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 3</td>
<td>10.10am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls &amp; Boys 9 Years (Only Year 4)</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls &amp; Boys (10 years)</td>
<td>11.50am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls &amp; Boys (11 years)</td>
<td>12.20pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls &amp; Boys (12 years)</td>
<td>12.50pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scott Stavar / PE Teacher

GILSTON STATE SCHOOL 2015 DISCO!!!

Friday 27 March

All information is on the flyer attached to this newsletter but we are seeking helpers for on the night. If you are going to be there and can lend a hand please call Mel on 0416 085 689.

I need a few people that are going to be around for the whole event that could help man the BBQ and aid security at a few key points so if you fit this criteria I would love to hear from you!!!

South East Region’s Vocal Camp for Advanced Primary Students

On Monday 23 March a number of our talented Year 6 students will be attending a vocal camp at Mt Tamborine. 100 students from 22 Gold Coast schools will be taking part. Our Gilston children will meet, sing and work with a wide variety of students, teachers and professionals from across the region, receiving more than 10 hours of expert vocal tuition and theatre training. They will learn a new repertoire of songs over the 3 days and perform in a concert that will be held on Wednesday night. We hope they enjoy the experience.

Choir camp: Chloe, Charlotte, Heidi, Jorja, Sol, Kianah, Eloise and Levi

SPORTS NEWS

Congratulations to Isaac Williams on his selection in the U12 Oceanic District Rugby League team. A future Titan in the making.

AMart Allsports at Bundall have a community kickback partnership with our school. When purchasing a product from their store mention Gilston SS and 5% of your purchase will be credited to our school to spend in store. Four pop-up soccer goals were recently received as a result of the program.

LIBRARY NEWS

Issue 2 of Book Club went home this week. Please make sure your orders are completed either online or by phone. Completed order forms, with the receipt number, come to the library please. Last day for orders for Issue 2 is Monday 23 March.

Borrowing – we have some great new books in our library. Please encourage your child to borrow one. Children may borrow and return books on any day, not only on their class borrowing day. Please encourage your child to read every day.

Our library monitors are now helping in the library and this is much appreciated. Thank you to these students.

Kathy Stone / Librarian

[www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au](http://www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au)
**BANKING**

This Friday, 20 March, Ann from Commonwealth Student Banking will be at the front of the school opening new accounts for anyone interested in getting their child started on their saving journey. Ann will be there from 8.00am and all you need to bring is ID for yourself, the child does not need ID if they are enrolled within our school. Younger siblings can also participate just bring their birth certificates along. All student banking is done Friday mornings so once you have an account up and running it is as simple as sending their deposit book into class each week.

Happy banking!

**TUCKSHOP REPORT**

Thursday 19 March – Help needed
Ice Blocks – Karen Cribb
Friday 20 March – Kristy Griffin
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Monday 23 March – Karen Bowden/Alex Wilson-McCarthy
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Tuesday 24 March – Amé Seagrove/Danielle Wibaux
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Wednesday 25 March – Tracey Zimmerman
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Thursday 26 March – Help needed

Our Sushi Day yesterday was fantastic, so this will be back next month – 28 April.
Thank you to all the tuckshop volunteers for your time and support.
Have a great week. Nicole Meesen/Tuckshop Convenor

**KS4KIDS FUNDRAISING WALK/FUN RUN**

**When** Saturday, 23 May, 2015

**Cost** Registration - Early Bird - Primary & High School Students $5. All other participants $10

**Purpose** KS4Kids is proudly supporting SU Qld state school chaplains that are working in our school communities.

Why not donate to someone walking for this great cause, 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 chaplaincy.

**Fun Run Options:**
30kms from Southport SLSC, Main Beach Pde. (7.00am).
20kms from Don Macsween Park, Miami, cnr Hylte St & Marine Pde. (9.00am)
10 kms from Palm Beach Parklands, cnr GC Highway & Thrower Dve. (10.30am)
3.5kms from Bilinga SLSC, 257 Golden Four Dve, Bilinga. (12.00pm).

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.

For a course map and more detail about the route and to register for early bird price please visit https://sugld.goregister.com.au/ks4kids2015/fundraise/

**All Registered Walkers Receive:** Complimentary KS4Kids T-shirt, food and drinks plus the chance to win some great prizes.

Complimentary transport is available to take you back to your starting point from 2:15pm

**Training** is offered to our Year 6 students who are participating in KS 4 Kids.

Mr Stavar and Ms Angus will train students every Monday and Thursday from 3:30pm–4.30pm.

**Register Online at**
Anyone who needs assistance with registering are encouraged to contact Samantha Bond our school chaplain samanthab@chappy.org.au

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**HIGH SCHOOL EXPERIENCE DAY – ROBINA SHS** – Friday 27 March 9.30am–2.30pm. For more information contact Ben Weeks bweek12@eq.edu.au

**MERRIMAC SHS** is pleased to offer **SCHOLARSHIPS** in academic performance, sports, instrumental music and dance for students in Year 7 – 2016. Applications are available from Merrimac SHS Admin or online www.merrimacshs.eq.edu.au.

Applications close 24/4/2015.

**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.

Beginning in March SOCCER X will be running a number of professional coaching programmes for boys & girls aged 5 - 12 years old. For more information on the Development Programmes & Holiday Clinics please visit WWW.SOCCKER-X.COM. To arrange a FREE trial please contact Justyn on 0451 162346.

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au