



GILSTON STATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Volunteers are an integral part of Gilston State School. The **generosity of this wonderful team adds significant value** to the operations of the school and the teaching and learning process. Every day there are volunteers on site assisting in a variety of ways, some very obvious, some not so. In classrooms, behind banking tables, in the tuckshop, completing uniform orders, developing plans, applying for grants, covering books, the list goes on. Last week the volunteers at the NAPLAN breakfast were particularly popular as they dished up the pancakes and syrup, the cheese toasties and the fresh fruit. On behalf of a **very grateful Gilston School community** I extend gratitude to all the people who make up this special team of volunteers.

NAPLAN was completed with a minimum of fuss last week. I **commend the efforts and application of the students in Years 3 and 5 and their teachers**. The results will be returned in individual report form for parents later in the year, with a summary provided to the school to inform future planning.

Consolidating learning through repetition is having a very **positive impact on the Prep students** I visited last week. The students had **mastered several language** aspects that are fundamental to future success in reading and writing and importantly, they were very proud of their achievements. Success with learning is very motivating and these students were certainly highly engaged and eager for more. I expect to be reporting some amazing results by the year's end.

Excursions and incursions are incorporated into the curriculum delivery by teachers to expose students to environments and expertise that is not available on our site. The cost of the activities is often subsidised by the P & C and Gilston Club to ensure all students are given the opportunity. I thank our teachers for their commitment to organising these events and our parent groups for the ongoing financial support.

Feedback is a critical part of the learning process. Whether we are young or, not-so-young, feedback helps improve our skills. Your child may have reported that there are times when another adult comes to watch lessons in their room. At these times, observations are recorded for feedback to assist teachers in the refinement of the practice, reinforcing the very effective practices evident and identifying the less effective.

Both the teacher being observed and the teacher observing learn from this practice. The sharing of skills through this process is having very positive effects on the adult learning in our school.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	1 June	Auditions begin for GPAC
Friday	5 June	Last day for recipes and drawings for cookbook
Monday	15 June	P & C Meeting 7.00pm
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
96.05	95.15	95.51	94.65	93.65	94.38	94.28

Fancy a 10km run? Several of our students do and will be completing the course this weekend in the **KS4 kids** event. Others will take on the less strenuous challenge of the 3km walk. I **commend Jolie and Scott for the extra time they have dedicated to preparing the students for the event.** The fruits have already been apparent in the performances at the cross country at school.

Student absences must be explained and the explanation must be recorded in accordance with legislation. If your child is away, a call to the absence line (5501 2360) is sufficient to lodge a reason. Teachers have been provided with a list of unexplained absences for students in their classes to prompt **your attention to providing explanations.** The student progress reports that will be distributed on the last Wednesday of the term will include a count of any remaining unexplained absences for each student.

While on the topic of attendance I provide this table from the corresponding time last year for your comparison.

P	1	2	3	4	5	6
95.59	94.6	96.06	94.57	94.39	94.69	92.3

There are few schools where there are no challenges regarding the **delivery and collection of students.** Cognisant of these challenges, Amanda Otto (as part of our Workplace Health and Safety Committee) has been investigating **options to enhance efficiency of traffic movement including parking.** Once Amanda has some more details she will be seeking feedback from you about the identified options.

Would you give up your birthday gifts for a cause? I am pleased to include a short paragraph from Connor later in the newsletter that includes an invitation for your consideration. For the past two years Connor has asked for cash as gifts for his birthday so he can purchase items to donate to his chosen cause. He and his mother are about to make another delivery. Please read his invitation and respond if you feel inclined.

In closing this week I draw your attention to the **Fair Committee** and their work on our behalf to organise this community event. Their **newsletter which contained a wealth of information** was distributed earlier this week to outline the scope of the planned attractions. While the tenacious team are busy in the planning, I urge you to help them out by responding to their requests in the lead up to 12 September. **This energetic and enthusiastic team deserves our full support!**

Stay safe and keep smiling.
Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The 2015 Mudgeeraba Show is going to be bigger and better than ever before! That's what the organisers say. Of course our school will be involved at the upcoming show (running from Friday 26 June to Sunday 28 June 2015), which will undoubtedly make it even better. We will have students work on show again this year and I'd like to include an interactive aspect to the display by way of a looped movie of everyday activity at Gilston. The production will depict students at work and play as well as staff, tuckshop and parents at the school. We would like to keep it for use on other occasions in the future where it would showcase our school.

If you wish your family not to be part of the movie please let your class teacher know. We do have a list of those who have chosen to exempt their children from such things but want to be sure no one is missed.

Last word on NAPLAN 2015

I would like to commend all of our students who sat the infamous test this time around. You all did a great job, without fuss and a great level of maturity exceeding your age. Well done everybody! You did us all proud and I'm positive that in the grand picture of your lives these sorts of experiences will serve you well.

We know what we are, but know not what we may be so the more we do, the more we can do.

Next week (25 to 29 May) is **Chappy Week.** It's a time when we celebrate the work Chaplains do in our schools to support students and families. Samantha has organised a range of activities for children to take part in, ranging from sausage sizzles to magic shows and more. If you see her around the school, stop and say hello. She would love to have a chat.

P & C NEWS

Our next P & C meeting will be Monday 15 June at 7.00pm. All parents and carers are both invited and most welcome to attend. We would also like to welcome our new Secretary Tam Bell. Thank you to Mel Andrews for her service in the role up until now.

With our annual Sports Carnival looming, please remember we have some adult size sports shirts still available free to parents and carers who would like to show their support on the day/s. These are available from the Uniform Shop while stocks last. It was great to see that some of the parents/carers had made some very interesting alterations to their sport shirts on the day of the Cross Country, so let's mix things up a little and see which parents/carers can come up with the most interesting design idea for their sport shirt at our Sports Carnival.

Casual Tuckshop Vacancies

Unfortunately we are saying goodbye to Tanya in the tuckshop this week. Thank you Tanya for your service and we wish you luck with everything ahead. As a result we are seeking a small group of appropriately qualified and skilled people to assist Nicole on a casual basis. We are looking for people with flexibility and food experience. The successful applicants will need to be eligible to obtain a blue card. We will still need volunteers to assist in the tuckshop as the increasing popularity with the menu updates is seeing it a busy place to be.

Please send applications to pandc@gilstonss.eq.edu.au

Applications will close at 4.00pm on 27 May 2015.

Volunteers Required

We are currently looking for some volunteers to assist in the **Uniform Shop.** If you have an interest in helping on either day, please give Christene a call on 0432 275 195.

We are currently looking for some volunteers to assist with our **School Banking** on Friday mornings between 9.00-11.00am each week. If you have an interest in helping, please give Mel a call on 0416 085 689.

NAPLAN breakfast was a resounding success. We have had so much positive feedback from the children and school community. Thank you to Jemma, Nicole and all the volunteers that gave their time to make sure our children had full bellies ready for the three days of NAPLAN testing.

Uniform Shop

The P & C are trialling EFTPOS facilities in the Tuckshop for 4 weeks. 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.

We have found that our jacket/jumper stocks are running out the door earlier than anticipated with unseasonably cool weather this time of year. We are endeavouring to have those stocks replenished in the next 3-4 weeks. We do have some second hand winter woollies available if required. We appreciate your patience in this matter. Any questions or queries please feel welcome to give me a call, Christene Dukes P & C Vice President Tel: 0432275195.

HELLO FROM THE FAIR COMMITTEE...

Hopefully you have all received the latest 'Fair Newsletter'; all the important information is included. If you have any questions please feel free to ask.

Recipe Book Update- Thank you to the 32 families that have submitted recipes for our School Cookbook. Unfortunately we have 420 families within the school so we have a long way to go. Please everyone get those Family Favourite Recipes in by 5 June. Email to gilstonschoolcommunityfair@gmail.com

All artwork needs to be handed into Nicole at the Tuckshop by 5 June.

Donations- These are slowly coming in - we still need a LOT more, so please if you are in a position where you can donate we would love to hear from you.

Remember...'Many hands make light work'

ENROLLING FAMILIES

On Tuesday 2 June we will be holding a Parent Information Session for families enrolling their child/children in Prep for 2016. The session will cover a number of topics including:

- Pre-Prep classes
- Screening assessments
- Interviews
- An explanation of the [Enrolment Management Plan \(EMP\)](#)
- Visit from the Community Health Nurse
- Strategies for how to best to prepare for Prep

If you have a child beginning Prep in 2016, and have not already expressed an interest please contact the office.

GILSTON PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITION (GPAC)

There are only 9 days remaining before entry forms are due for our talent show. Get your act ready and make sure your entry form is handed to Mrs Miller by Friday 29 May. Auditions begin on Monday 1 June.

WEEK 6 IS CHAPPY WEEK!

Saturday 23 May - Yes it's this week! **K's4kids fun run / walk** fundraiser. If you can't do the walk come down to the after carnival at Coolangatta and bring your gold coins for the Bungee run ride (no diving necessary!)

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. 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.

LIBRARY REPORT

Bookclub Issue 4 has been sent home. Please ensure no cash is sent to school with an order. All orders are done via phone or internet with a credit card. The order page with the receipt number is then sent to school, to be placed in the order box in the library. All orders for Issue 5 need to be completed by Friday 5 June. Thank you.

Next week, from Monday 25 May to Friday 29 May, our school will be holding a **Book Fair** in the library. Purchases can be made from 8.00am to 9.00am, during school breaks and between 3.00-3.30pm each day.

Please come along and have a look at the wonderful choice of books available for purchase.

We are holding this book Fair to celebrate May as National Family Reading Month. Please read with your child every day for the month of May.

Kathy Stone / Librarian

TUCKSHOP REPORT

Thursday 21 May – Help needed

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Friday 22 May – Teresa Evans / Help needed

Ice Blocks - Help needed

Monday 25 May – Karen Bowden

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Tuesday 26 May – Amé Seagrove / Karen Bowden

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Wednesday 27 May – Help needed

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Thursday 28 May – Bec Moore / Kylie

Ice Blocks – Karen Crabb

Friday 29 May – Kristy Griffin / Help needed

Ice Blocks - Help needed

Please note we don't sell GLEE's anymore. This is a part of the 'Smart Choices' plan which is to encourage healthy eating.

Thank you to all that ordered kebabs yesterday, it was a successful day. Also special thanks to Karen Bowden and Amé Seagrove for helping make these kebabs. Look out for more daily specials.

The Tuckshop, in conjunction with the P & C, will be running a **PIE DRIVE**. The order forms will be out this week. Please sell as many pies as you can. Remember all monies raised goes back to our school and your children.

If anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to come and see Nicole in the Tuckshop.

HELLO my name is Connor Wright and I'm in 6S. For the past two years I have donated more than \$300 in food and blankets to the Animal Welfare League.

If you would like to donate towards this please call my Mum, Mel Wright, on 0416 085 689.

Thank you. Connor Wright

