PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Chess
Lessons will begin again in week 1 of term 3 – Monday 14 July. If you would like to take advantage of the lessons in the Hall on Monday afternoons just go down and introduce yourself to the instructor. They will be more than happy to give you the necessary information to get started.

Learning is like rowing upstream: not to advance is to drop back
At Gilston we maintain a heavy focus on teaching but place a much greater focus on learning. And learning is VERY important to us. Students from Prep to Year Seven are able to recite the values of Being a Learner, Responsible, Respectful and Safe but we’re yet to see them adopted on the scale we would like.

Exhibiting Age Appropriate Behaviour - The Three Ages of the Child
The gap between chronological age and emotional age seems to be widening. The situations arising at school where children have acted according to their emotions to get their way, is becoming a common and more prevalent trend. This is of course not the way to act in situations where others are involved because of the social rules in place to uphold social values of the society we exist in.

There are many instances and examples to support the idea that it is the responsibility of the adults in a child’s life to profile the child’s temperament, match it to their own temperament, and create environments and interventions that facilitate a balance between the two. It’s then the child’s responsibility to learn from the efforts of that intervention and care, and emulate socially acceptable ways of doing. Students’ at Gilston are taught explicitly about socially acceptable ways of doing, this includes putting things into perspective, asking is it really that bad, or is there another way to get a positive result from the situation at hand. Whether or not we use the psychological definition of temperament with which to conceptualise children as “spirited”, there is growing evidence that some of what we call challenging behaviour results from biological traits and must be recognised and dealt with in an ecological perspective, adapting the surroundings, expectations, and methodology to the needs of the child and the situations they find challenging. Educators have identified six parameters of behaviour characteristics that make some children difficult to contend with.
These are:
- Intensity-powerful reactions
- Persistence - not giving up easily, not changing one’s mind
- Sensitivity-quickly responsive
- Perceptiveness-notice everything
- Adaptability-uncomfortable with change
- Energetic-need to be on the move

The Chronological age of the Child
The easiest one to comprehend is chronological age although even at this, seemingly most basic level, confusion can arise. Every upper primary class teacher knows that children at this age differ widely in physical traits and characteristics. Some are clearly well into the beginning stages of puberty; some have not reached puberty at all. Physical differences translate into different expectations about levels of maturity and behaviour. Children, who appear physically beyond their age, are often perceived as being able to function at a more mature level than their brain will allow. So, looks can be deceiving.

The next age of the child is intellectual age.
Intellectual age refers to the general level of intelligence of the child, stated in lay terms, IQ. Intellectual age can be greater than or less than chronological age. Intellectual age tends to remain stable throughout the life span unless disease, trauma, or environmental toxins impact it. Children with General Learning Disabilities all have significantly below average IQ. This low IQ means that their level of conceptualisation, generalisation, abstraction, and comprehension will be below chronological age. We don’t speak to these children the same way we do to other children because of their intellectual deficits. Likewise, in the case of gifted or exceptionally able children, we match our language to their level of cognitive ability.

The third age of children is their emotional age.
This is where things can get a bit confusing. The emotional age of a child fluctuates with environmental factors such as stress, trauma, anxiety, and health status. A child’s emotional age can be well below their chronological or intellectual age. Take for example the nine-year old who pitches a fit after losing a football match. He is acting like a three-year old in a tantrum. Now, what is important to realise is that emotional age can be below chronological or intellectual age but can never be truly above either of them. All children who appear to be mature beyond their years, who have “old heads on young shoulders” have been socialised to act that way, and it is an act. Becoming “adultified” they develop attitudes and vocabulary, a pseudo-sophistication, that is deceiving. When we interact with them at this false level of development things often go awry. As a general rule it is always advisable to intervene with a child at the level of their emotional age (remember it can be below or equal to chronological and intellectual age, but never above it). This is especially true of discipline.

Getting the match right, perceiving the child as he or she truly is, is an important part of “fit”; that hard to define essence of appropriate education and appropriate behaviour management. The successes children have in life, and how they will or could achieve, will be greatly influenced by the right amount of appropriate, timely intervention and coaching by the significant adults in their lives.

End of Semester - Report Cards
Report cards will be coming home today! The last day of school is Friday 27 June and all students are required to attend. I’d like to take this time to also wish students’ and our families a very happy and safe two week break, then we’ll do it all over again.

PCYC Vacation Care
Bookings for Vacation Care are filling fast. A flyer is attached giving itinerary details for the two week period. Children really enjoy the activities planned, so get in quick to give your children a memorable holiday break while you relax at work (or somewhere). Contact Lisa, the SAC Coordinator on 0418 277 403 or the PCYC at Cayuga Street, Nerang QLD 4211 on 5578 2227, www.pcyc.org.au

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
It seems hard to believe I have been in Admin for two weeks, but it has certainly kept me busy with so much to learn.
I think I will need the holiday break to prepare for my next journey – the arrival of our Pre-Preps. Over the next term, six classes of Pre-prep children will spend time in the school environment as they prepare for their entrance to Prep next year. We saw such a wonderful transition to school last year that we are hoping to have the same effect in 2015. In addition to this we have to work through screeners with all the children on our waiting list, so Heather and I have a rather full on term ahead. True to the Gilston spirit, it wouldn’t be possible without all the team work that goes into the programme. I’d like to thank Kylie Glew and Prep N (who will allow us access to be part of their class programme), and Cathie Hawker, Stephanie Hessian, Tracey Clements, Sharon Fleet and Emma Raju who have helped get all the resources organised for the programme.
I hope everybody has a restful and safe holiday and look forward to seeing all those bright happy faces back next term.

P & C NEWS
As another term draws to a close, we wish all families a safe and happy holiday.
On a great news front, the Fete for 2015 is a GO!!! We are all very grateful that Trudy Brown from the Gilston Club is putting together a team to organise and run the fete, the what’s the when’s and how you can help will be shared.
Our tuckshop is looking for some healthy food suggestions from you to sell over the counter. The things your children love / like or would see as a delicious healthy treat. Kindly pop a note into Nicole and Mandy or email the ladies direct to gilston-tuckshop@gmail.com.

Crossing supervisors - Sadly we are down to only 2 days per week where the crossing is supervised. This is a volunteer role and your support would be greatly appreciated. It is very easy, takes only 20 minutes and provides immeasurable safety for the children. Please if this is something you would like to do, but need some more information just give me a call on 0403046920 or email me direct to narelle.reed@gmail.com. Before my work life interrupted I personally loved doing the role, it really is fun to chat to the kids and parents.
As always any questions or queries just call.
Regards, Narelle Reed P & C President Tel: 0403046920

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au
GILSTON CLUB NEWS

Big CONGRATULATIONS to the Tate family (Malena in 4E and Leo in 6N) who won the Fiji Raffle! To say they were thrilled would be an understatement. The Book Seller’s prize went to Shakayla Brown in 1E for selling 6 books (120 tickets). Well Done! A mention must also go to Maddyns Arnott-Heaton and Elia Bell who sold 5 books each!

Although there were 62 books still not returned, a big thank you must go out to the families who did return them. We made a profit of $4500.00 which is fantastic!!

Family Portrait Day on Saturday 19 July – there are only 8 spots left, so go to www.trybooking.com/EWOU today and book your time so you don’t miss out.

3-PARK SUPERPASSES FROM $75.00 EACH – SEE ATTACHED FLYER FOR DETAILS!!

Have a wonderful and restful holiday, and for all things Gilston Club email us at gilstonclub@gilstonss.eq.edu.au or text me on 0414912217.

Lisa - Chairperson

TOUCH FOOTY

To celebrate State of Origin game 2 last week, our Year 6 & 7 students took on the teachers in a game of touch footy. As always, it was great fun and played with lots of enthusiasm. For the record, the teachers won 5-2. We look forward to more games in the future.

Scott Stavar / HPE Teacher

LIBRARY NEWS

Mudgeeraba Arts Show – Thank you to the students and teachers for entering their art work in the competition. Congratulations to the following students who were recognized by the judges for their wonderful work: Liam Fitzroy, Chloe Flesser, Ryder Donaldson, Sam Backus, Maja Lott, Abbey Lehmann, Stella Benford, Maddison Encarnacao, Chloe Fraser. Families are welcome to attend the show this weekend; it is a great family day out.

Premier’s Reading Challenge – Students who have signed up for this challenge, please remember to keep reading and recording your books. The holidays will give you more free time to read, so enjoy a good book in these cooler months.

Book Club – Next term the librarians will be starting a Book Club for any interested students. The book Club will meet monthly to discuss the Book of the Month. Any students, who are interested, please see us and we will register your name.

Library Monitors – Next term, student library monitors will be starting their duties. If you are interested in becoming a library monitor, please see the librarians.

Overdue Books – If you have any overdue books, please return them to the library so you can borrow again. Early next term final notices for longstanding overdue books will be issued. If these books are still not returned, an account for the cost of the book will be issued to families.

Happy holiday reading.

Shelley Batson & Kathy Stone / Librarians

CONGRATULATIONS to 6 students who competed in a dance and cheer competition on the weekend. Madeline Brown, Chelsea Holloway, Olivia McClelland and Ewan Milne competed in the Junior Hip Hop Lvl 1 and came second. Madyson Falconer competed in partner stunt Lvl 1 and came first and Jazmin Zimmerman competed in the Group stunt Lvl 1 and came first. This competition was open to all dance studios who wished to compete from Old.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Thursday 26 June - Tanya
Ice Blocks – Karen
Friday 27 June – Alex, more help needed.
Ice Blocks – Kamila
Monday 14 July - Dannie
Ice Blocks – Janette Green
Tuesday 15 July – help needed
Ice Blocks – help needed
Wednesday 16 July - Stacey
Ice Blocks – Deb
Thursday 17 July - Tanya
Ice Blocks – Karen
Friday 18 July – Melissa, Alex
Ice Blocks – Kamila

From the first week of next term we will be trying out some new menu ideas. These will be available to view on flexischools during the holidays. We will also have hard copies available next term from the Tuckshop.

Teaching Kids “Smart Choices” healthy food and drink options will be our aim every Tuesday during Term 3.

ONLY healthy options will be available to buy from the Tuckshop on that day, these will be: home cooked meals, sushi, salads, water bottles and orange juice and fruit varieties. NO cookies, chips, icy poles, hash browns, etc. Healthy foods help children learn!

FRIDAYS will be our combo day with a few new combos available but only on Fridays. (This will also help with the preparation for our very busy Fridays.)

Please come and see us if you have any concerns or ideas that you would like to share, we are always open to new ideas.

Anyone interested in helping out for an hour or two to see how things operate in the tuckshop, please let us know. Your time is always appreciated.

SPORTS DAY - could any parents wishing to order lunch from tuckshop, please have your order in by 9.00am. We wish everyone a safe and wonderful holiday.

Relax and enjoy. Mandy & Nicole

COMMUNITY NOTICES

HOLIDAY TENNIS – 9.00-10.30am, 30/6/14 to 4/7/14 and 7/7/14 to 11/7/14. Cost: $10.00 per day., Hinterland Tennis 5596 0308.

AFL AUSKICK SIGN ON & 1st SESSION – Monday 21 July, 3:10pm 4:10pm, School oval, Cost: $65. For more information contact: Tim Searl on 5594 5722. Online registration only at www.aulauskick.com.au

NRL SCHOOL HOLIDAY CLINIC AND OPEN TRAINING SESSION – Wednesday 2 July, 8.00-10.00am open training session. 10.00am-2.00pm NRL holiday Clinic - $40. Burleigh Bears Seniors (Pizzey Park) 80 Pacific Avenue, Miami. Register at playnrl.com/seq or phone Tamay Beam 5656 5650.

CREATIVE ACTIVITIES OF BOTANICA ARTS AND CRAFTS - Join the fun over the school holidays. Create different and interesting works of art using materials from nature. Suitable for 4 to 12 year olds. Friday 11 July - 2 Sessions 9.00am & 10.00am - $5 per child. Bookings essential Ph 0449 561 674.

TENNIS COACHING: Classes conducted on Monday mornings from 8.00am. Cost is $17 per lesson, discounts for 3 or more children. All enquiries to Rowan Hollonds, Gold Coast Tennis Coaching, 0411 867 971, rowan@gctenniscoaching.com.au or www.gctenniscoaching.com.au

SUNDAY 13 JULY ADVANCE TOWN HOTEL parents of Ginger and Bo Brown, Nicole Parker-Brown and her Band Playing Jazz, Blues, Grove 1.00pm onwards.