Our emphasis on explicit instruction, in particular the transition of knowledge from short to long-term memory, is having a very positive effect. This effect size has been quantified through the use of pre and post testing in a range of areas this term. Based on the preliminary data I wish to publicly acclaim our teachers for the results achieved. The results are extraordinary exceeding in most cases that expected from a full year. The flow on from this learning will be felt in students’ abilities to apply these skills and knowledge to more abstract concepts. I applaud the dedication to the teaching practices that led to these results.

Consistency of judgement is a priority at Gilston. Consequently, our teachers will meet this week in their year levels to compare students’ work samples to ensure the ratings attributed are consistent across the year level. This moderation practice also occurs with our neighbouring schools in the Nerang Alliance next term. Our intention is to provide you confidence in the ratings that are assigned to your child.

What did you learn at your parent-teacher meeting? If you had a similar experience to that described by several parents with whom I have spoken, then you will know more about your child’s progress so far this year, their work habits and attitudes, and goals for future learning. These meetings will be followed next term by a written report that will outline ratings against the standards expected in key learning areas.

The AEDC (Australian Early Development Census) will occur again this year. This Australian Government initiative measures the developmental progress of children as they start their first year of school. The instrument collects data relating to five key areas of early childhood development. Data from the last census informed our decision to instigate the “Enrolling Families” project. Our Prep teachers will be completing the census for students in their class. The data is submitted through a secure data collection system for processing and publishing the following year. The data returned will provide information on groups of children in the community, not individuals. If you wish to know more about the AEDC, contact me, visit www.aedc.gov.au/schoolpack or phone the AEDC team on 1800092548.

The graphic images emanating from the Vanuatu Island group had us all imagining the horror experienced by those residents during the cyclone. I have been interested to listen to the perspectives of the some of our girls and boys as they share their thoughts. There are a range of aid agencies that are...
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
2015 National Young Leaders Day
‘The key to successful leadership today is influence, not authority.’ —Kenneth Blanchard
Last Friday, I had the privilege of taking our four school captains to Brisbane to attend the annual National Young Leaders Day. Students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and took from the day many messages of leadership. Our school captains displayed exemplary behaviour and were true role models for the Gilston school community.
Taj Hoff, one of our school captains shares his experience below.
‘Last Friday, 20 March, Gilston school captains along with 3000 other primary school leaders attended the National Young Leaders Day held at the Brisbane Convention Centre. We listened to five inspirational speakers; Mike Martin, Bindi Irwin, Coen Ashton, Juliette Wright and James Norton. They all shared their stories of leadership and achievement. Some of the main messages conveyed were: believe in yourself, never give up, have a strong mind and stay true to your visions. As a leader, we all have the chance to influence others. My favourite speaker was Coen Ashton, a 17 year old boy with Cystic Fibrosis and diabetes who has had a double lung transplant. During his time of illness he accomplished his goal of jet skiing down the Murray River and signing 1000 people to the Australian organ donor register. He had the strength to never give up during his many years of sickness and his message was to believe in yourself no matter how hard things may be. I had a great day and gained a lot. Thank you Mrs Clark for taking us to the National Young Leaders Day. By Taj Hoff – Gilston State School Captain’
HELP REQUIRED URGENTLY!
The Gilston Club has kindly donated money to purchase guided reading books for the school. These resources have now arrived and we need your help in covering them to ensure they are ready for Term Two.
**When:** Tuesday, 31 March
**Where:** Library
**Time:** 9.00am – 11.00am
Morning tea will be provided.

Please RSVP your interest to the front office by Friday, 27 March for catering purposes. Look forward to seeing you there. Until next week,
Kelly Clark

HELLO FROM THE FAIR COMMITTEE
Well the excitement and preparations have begun for this year’s School Fair. Lock the date into your diaries now Saturday 12 September 10.00am – 3.00pm.
The committee are currently working on stall allocations for each year level. Over the next few weeks you will be asked to assist us with donations or help on or before the day. We would appreciate that all families help out in one way or another. Please keep an eye out in the school newsletter or notes that may come home. This will be our way to keep you all up to date with what’s happening.
Our Call Out This Week For Assistance...Is there a parent within the school or does anyone know of a ‘PRINTER’. We have an existing Banner that we need the date changed on. All dimensions have been created we just need a large sticker printed. If anyone could help please contact us as soon as possible.

Contact details:
Email: gilstonschoolcommunityfair@gmail.com
Mobile: Trudy- 0409111064
Danielle-0402562093
Remember ‘Many hands make light work’

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
Prep 9.15am
Year 1 9.30am
Year 2 9.50am
Year 3 10.10am
Girls & Boys 9 Years (Only Year 4) 10.30am
Girls & Boys (10 years) 11.50am
Girls & Boys (11 years) 12.20pm
Girls & Boys (12 years) 12.50pm

Scott Stavar / PE Teacher

TENNIS AUSTRALIA is giving every student a free t-shirt as part of the Hot Shots program. Prep students can also claim a free racquet. If interested, fill in the registration form attached to this newsletter and hand it to Mr Stavar.

LIBRARY NEWS
Book Club Issue 2 orders were placed on Monday and books will be delivered before the end of Term 1. Thank you to the parents and staff who placed an order. Every dollar spent with Scholastic earns our school points which we redeem by purchasing new books for the students.
Our Reader’s Cup Team has been selected and they are now very busy reading the six books they will be quizzed on in the Reader’s Cup Competition to be held in June at Hillcrest College. Kathy Stone – Reader’s Cup Mentor.

Borrowing – Please encourage your child to borrow from the library. We have many wonderful titles for them to borrow. Kathy Stone / Librarian

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au
TUCKSHOP REPORT
Thursday 26 March – Help needed
Ice Blocks – Karen Cribb
Friday 27 March – Teresa Evans, Kerryn Balcke
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Monday 30 March – Alex Wilson-McCarthy, Karen Bowden
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Tuesday 31 March – Amé Seagrove, Karen Bowden
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Wednesday 1 April - Help needed
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Thursday 2 April - Help needed
Ice Blocks – Karen Cribb

Reminder that Disco tickets are on sale at the tuckshop or on flexischools.com.au. Prepurchased price is $7.00, otherwise on the night tickets will be $8.00.

Tea and coffee will be available from the tuckshop on Wednesday 1 April during the Cross-Country. Only $2.00 per cup.

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 Hythe 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://suqld.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.

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

COMMUNITY NOTICES
TWO DAY SOCCER CAMP 16/17 April, 9.00am-2.00pm, Assisi Catholic College, Upper Coomera, Cost $135. Book now – davidlawrencefitness.com.au david@davidlawrencefitness.com.au 0404 082 770.
AUSKICK Sign on & 1st Session: – Thursday 7th May, 3.10pm - 4.10pm, Gilston SS, sports Oval, $70
For more information contact 5594 5722 or visit www.auskick.com.au. Register & Pay online by 10 May to receive your free tickets to a GC Suns Game. Register online & pay online at www.auskick.com.au. Please print your receipt and bring to the first session.
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.

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au