PRINCIPAL'S REPORT
School Opinion Surveys
This is the second week the survey has been open to students, staff and parents/caregivers and to date our school has registered seventy three student responses and sixteen parent responses. If your child has brought home a letter inviting you to have your say, please take the time to go to the address provided and use the codes to gain access and complete the survey.

Teaching and learning audits
During week eight of this term Gilston will be subject to the teaching and learning audits (including the discipline audits). The information gleaned from these processes will be integrated into the school performance assessment framework. The domains are:
1. Evidence-based teaching
2. An explicit improvement agenda
3. Analysis and discussion of data
4. A culture that promotes learning
5. Targeted use of school resources
6. An expert teaching team
7. Systematic curriculum delivery
8. Tailored classroom learning
9. School-community partnerships (additional national school improvement tool domain)

Other elements to be considered in the reviews include a school’s performance against all indicators, feedback from the school community, and local contextual factors identified by the school and regional office. As part of the arrangements, the audit domains will be incorporated different reviews such as the School Improvement Unit (SIU).

School Performance Assessment Framework
A key feature of the Education Department’s renewal strategy is the establishment of a school performance assessment framework and School Improvement Unit (SIU). This strategy is currently in draft form but will give the reader an idea of the direction Education Queensland want to move in. The SIU will have carriage of the framework and will administer a state wide performance measurement and reporting system to help drive improvement and accountability in Queensland state schools. The key function of the SIU will be to assess and monitor the performance of all Queensland state schools, including Independent Public Schools. This includes appointing and
accrediting reviewers, undertaking an annual desktop audit of all schools using agreed measures, leading and providing frameworks for different types of reviews, and collecting and sharing good practice.

Roles of regions, the SIU and schools
Regions, the SIU and schools will have different, but equally important, roles and accountabilities for improving school performance under the school performance assessment framework:

- Regions (in particular, assistant regional directors) will have a coaching role, helping schools to improve performance. This includes supporting school reviews and leading school improvement intervention strategies. Regions are performance coaches for schools.
- The SIU will be an independent monitor of state school and regional performance, separate from the delivery arm of schools.
- Schools will continue to conduct their regular reporting, planning and improvement processes as per the School Planning, Reviewing and Reporting Framework (SPRRF). This includes developing a four year school plan and reviewing it annually.

These roles align with the department’s new operating model, which sets out clear roles and responsibilities for regions and central office to ensure an increased focus on improving outcomes for students.

The newly defined roles are also consistent with the department’s aim to give schools greater autonomy and accountability for improving student outcomes, and more support to help them achieve these outcomes.

PCYC

FREE active sports/game based programme provided right here at PCYC for term 3. Active After Schools is a government initiative in which PCYC have secured funding to run the programme at Gilston State School Outside of School Hours Care. Want your children to be a part of the enthusiastic, high energy programme. It’s all about fun & having a go!!

This term and during the coming weeks PCYC staff have organised basketball and touch football coaches coming to Gilston to run their Active After School (AAS), Programme. Negotiations are continuing to see if the basketball coach can come on Wednesdays so that would make it 3 times a week for the PCYC kids. It’s all about participation and the children have been fully engaged in the activities run by the coaches. There is a possibility that we could open it up to other student’s at school. This would necessitate their parents staying and assuming supervision for them. We may be able to trial it possibly in the final couple of weeks but ideally we want more kids at PCYC so this could be a good avenue to encourage parents to join us. If you’d like more information about joining the PCYC at Gilston get in touch with Lisa using the numbers below.

For further information contact Lisa Monteith School Age Care Coordinator – 0418277403 or email lisa.monteith@pcyc.org.au

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

“We’re picking up papers!” was the gleeful shout as the young prep student and her friends bent to retrieve the few scattered wrappers from the garden area near their classroom. Three young girls doing the right thing without being asked and seemingly not requiring any reward as motivation. On the way back to the office, another young student, arms laden with tuckshop bags he had gathered from the eating areas outside classrooms throughout the school, wished me a “Good afternoon”.

“When a lot of people do a little, it’s a lot. When a lot of people do nothing, it’s nothing” (Harvey Diamond). Or, as the students who have recently performed at NAIDOC celebrations sang for us, “From little things, big things grow!” If one pauses for a moment to notice things happening at Gilston, we can see many instances of activity completed with no expectation of personal recognition or reward. It can be students who pick up papers, or who gather tuckshop bags, or who help friends who’ve been hurt, even those checking on their little brothers or sisters during lunchtime. It can also be the parents in our school community, the few doing a lot to help the many. No expectation of any reward except that their actions create an exceptionally comfortable workplace and learning environment for our teachers and students. So, to all those who do the little things – Thank You!

Now, for some brain food to get the synapses firing. For those who not only enjoy maths but like to know the background information behind maths problems, you will find Famous Problems in the History of Maths interesting. If you like looking skywards and wonder why we see what we see, then this NASA site, for Parents and Educators should help to answer some questions. Then we have help with homework assignments. The Gold Coast Library range of online resources can be accessed by all library’s members at their local branch or at home 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. And, last but not least, a site that has lots of good information about how to be MoneySmart in our lives. Stay safe and happy learning.

P & C NEWS

We’re back into the swing of things and last Monday’s P & C meeting was quick and to the point. We are now looking at some parent seating around the oval for the after school events, along with the business as usual for our many ongoing projects. Your continued support for our Gilston Club will see much needed resources provided to assist all our students. Lisa and her team work long and hard with all things Gilston.

There remain in stock some surplus current Senior Shirts – price reduced to $10 each. These are available from the Tuckshop. Sizes remaining are: Year 6 - Size 12 x 10, Size 16 x 5, Year 7 - Size 10 x 3, Size 12 x 4. Again our heartfelt apologies for the quality of the shirts this year. I personally have also had to rehem my son’s sleeves, etc. Whilst we recognise it will not benefit the students this year, this brand of shirt will not be used again. Tuckshop - We wish to extend our thanks and appreciation to Mandy for her service and assistance as one of our co-conveners in the tuckshop. Mandy’s departure has opened up the need for additional casual assistance. With flexibility being the key, the P & C are
calling for applications to fill 2 casual positions currently available. Please email your application and resume to narellereed@gmail.com. The tuckshop offers the only paid roles for the P & C. 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.

As always should you have any questions or queries, please feel welcome to call me to discuss.

Regards, Narelle Reed P & C President
Tel: 0403046920

LIBRARY NEWS
Bookclub Issue 5 has been sent home. Please return your completed orders to the Library by Monday 4 August. Thank you.

Library Monitors – thank you to these students for doing such a wonderful job.

Book Week is being celebrated from 18 to 22 August. The theme this year is “Reading to Connect”. Please mark Friday 22 August in your diary as this will be our Book Week Parade. There will also be activities every day in our library during Book Week to celebrate books and reading. Stay tuned!

Premier’s Reading Challenge – students who are participating in this challenge, remember to keep on reading and recording your books on the reading sheet. Any student who requires a new recording sheet can easily get one from the librarians.

World War One History Project – to mark the centenary of WW1 our school handed over to the Nerang RSL a completed history project about Australia’s involvement in WW1. The topic our students studied was the Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force. The students who worked on this project were: Tom Harding, Jack Cochram, Georgia Stansfield, Chelsea Holloway, Ewan Milne, Jordan Sweaney and Jessie Zimmerman. Well done to these students.

Thought of the Week: “Reading is to the mind what exercise is to the body” – Richard Steele

Librarians / Shelley Batson & Kathy Stone

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
Thursday 31 July - Tanya
Ice Blocks – Karen
Friday 1 August – Anne Tihi, more help needed
Ice Blocks – Kamila Bestmann
Monday 4 August – Mel Moore
Ice Blocks – Deb
Tuesday 5 August - Erinna
Ice Blocks – Tanya K
Wednesday 6 August – Stacey Gardner
Ice Blocks – help needed
Thursday 7 August - Tanya
Ice Blocks – Karen
Friday 8 August – help needed
Ice Blocks – Kamila

A new price list has been printed and is available from the Tuckshop.

This week is “Canteen Week”. We are currently running a colour-in competition. If you would like an entry please come and collect one for your chance to win an iTunes card. Entries need to be back to the Tuckshop by Monday 4 August.

Also I would like to thank all our volunteers who come and help us each week. I really do appreciate it, so thank you very much.

If you have any queries or suggestions, please come and see me.

Have a great week. Nicole

COMMUNITY NOTICES
Come along to the Nerang Scouts GIANT GARAGE SALE on Saturday 23 August 7.30am-3.00pm, 3 Hope Street, Nerang. (parking available on Hope Street & surrounding roads. Lots of bargains - furniture, appliances, clothes, toys & bric-a-brac! For enquiries or to donate items, please contact Danielle on 0402 562 093 or email nerangscouts1@bigpond.com Thank you for supporting the Nerang Scouts!

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

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au