FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday  8 December  Year 7 Wet N Wild
Friday    9 December  Last day Term 4
Thursday  19 January Uniform shop open 9.30am-12.00pm
Friday    20 January Uniform Shop open 1.30-4.00pm
Monday    23 January First day Term 1 2012

PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT

I remember a time, not so long ago, when our humble covered area catered for the Christmas concert and parents spilled out onto the grass area to sneak a peek of their children on the stage. Once we built the hall many thought this overcrowding was a thing of the past. Alas our concert this week had our audience spilling on to the concrete apron and grass area such was its popularity. Perhaps next year we will have to host it on the oval. As always it is always a delight to see the enjoyment gained by so many proud parents as they watched their children perform. The carols, some old, some new, certainly herald the start of Christmas festivities within the school and I applaud all involved for the success of the event.

Another special event in our week was the announcement of the Captains and Vice-Captains for 2012. Jade Calderone and Jake Treanor accepted their badges from current captains, Hiwot Emerson and Quinn Yates-Slater while current Vice-Captains Lauren Lawler and Braxton Tahi did the honours for Harmony Kiripatea and Jamie Brown. I congratulate our newest leaders and thank our outgoing leaders for their service to the school during 2012.

The celebrations continued last night as we bid farewell to the year 7 group of 2011. Among the presentations of awards and speeches, a flood of emotions filled many of those in attendance, especially the parents. For some parents it was their last presentation evening with their youngest child leaving Gilston. Among this group are Lisa and Steven Dingwall who, with Clay’s graduation to high school, part official company with Gilston State School after a 19 year association. To all parents and students leaving this year I extend best wishes for a successful future and remind you that we will always be happy to celebrate the achievements of “Gilston kids” well after they have donned the uniform for the last time.

Learning is the focus at Gilston State School and our staff have again guided your children in their respective journeys in this regard in 2011. I acknowledge our team for these outcomes and wish for them all a well-deserved rest pursuing whatever it is that brings them joy. Judging by the conversations I have with many of you, I know I speak on your behalf as I thank them for the dedication. For one of our permanent staff, the end of 2011 marks the end of a chapter in her teaching. Marg Haebich will be leaving us to join Benowa State School in 2012. Marg leaves after 10 years at Gilston where she has influenced the learning of many people both young and not-so-young. On behalf of the school community I thank Marg and trust that the new challenges that await her will lead to the learning and development she seeks.

As you plan your holidays for 2012 I remind you to utilise the school breaks to avoid any unnecessary absences from school for your child. The learning programs are full and require maximum attendance. Only extenuating circumstances will be deemed acceptable in 2012.

Time is a precious commodity and those who have given it freely to help our school this year deserve to be on Santa’s “nice” list. Recently we recognised the volunteers who contribute in a variety of ways at our school. Today however I draw attention to the P & C as its members continued to refine the operations of the Tuckshop and Uniform shop to comply with legislation whilst continuing to contribute to the strategic direction of our school. I applaud Narelle and the P & C Executive for their ongoing commitment to their honorary roles and their attention to detail. By extension I also applaud Alex and her wonderful Gilston Club team for their unwavering focus on finding money for those special extras for our students. We are indeed blessed to have parents who are willing to make these contributions. I look forward to a swell in their numbers next year as we welcome a record number of Prep students.

Signing off for the final time this year, I wish for you time to do the things that bring you joy with the people that do likewise. May the memories of this Christmas be fond and revisited frequently in the years to come.

Stay safe and keep smiling Bruce

PRINCIPAL'S DEPOSITION

“Things Are Neither Good Nor Bad But Thinking Them Makes Them So”

Ever hear this quote? It’s from William Shakespeare. Will figured out years ago that what goes on between the ears is more powerful an influence over people’s emotions and behaviours than what happens to them. Now he might have been led to this insight if he had read the works of the Stoic-Roman philosopher Epictetus who wrote in the second century A.D., “people are not affected by events but by the view they have, of the events they witness.”

So what is the reason that some children demonstrate emotional resilience and control in the face of adverse events while others become extremely upset, stay upset for an extended period of time and have a hard time bouncing back?

Habits of the mind. How we think determines how we act. What we all need to do for the sake of our children is guide them into thinking half full and not half empty, by modelling appropriate positive behaviours.

History is littered with examples of triumph over great adversity. With this in mind we would like to strengthen the strategies already in place about empowering our children within the realms of a pro-active partnership between teachers, children, parents and the community. It is our firm belief, that a full and proper implementation and adoption of the core Gilston State School values through productive partnerships will see our children excel in their endeavours academically and socially leading to a happier, stronger community of the future.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S DEPOSITION

** N E W S L E T T E R **

PHONE: 5501 2333  ABSENCE LINE: 5501 2360  FAX: 5501 2300
E-Mail: admin@gilstonss.eq.edu.au  Website: www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au
Principal: Bruce Langes  Deputy Principal: Graeme Weatherburn

41/2011  7 December, 2011
As my first semester at Gilston draws to a close I would like to take this opportunity to thank the teachers, administration team, ancillary staff, parents, caregivers and families of our school community for their support, assistance and friendship. I look forward to doing it all over again next year with your continued assistance and support. To all, I wish you a very happy holiday a prosperous start to the New Year and may your God be with you.

**P & C NEWS**

On behalf of the P & C I wish you and your family a very safe and merry Christmas and look forward to your return in 2012.

Narelle Reed  P & C President  Tel: 0403 046 920

**GILSTON CLUB**

As our year finishes, the Gilston Club would like to thank everyone for all their help. We have attached a breakdown of where our money has gone. We still have $8,000 yet to be allocated, so if you would like a say, or know where in the school the money would be of benefit, come to our meetings next year and share your ideas. The Gilston Club would also like to thank the wonderful staff here at Gilston. Not only the wonderful teachers, but the terrific helpers in the office, the tuckshop, the cleaners and groundkeeper. We would be lost without them! Thank you. Stay safe and have a fabulous holiday.

Alex Wilson McCarthy – 0404 429 534

**CHOIR THANKS**

I would like to recognise all of the parents and family members who supported us with recent choir performances at Kmart and Melody Park Retirement Village. Whether you helped transport children to the venues or just assisted with memorising song words, I would like express my gratitude to you. Without our supportive Gilston parents it would not be possible to take part in these important community events. Thank you again.

Alison Miller/ Music Teacher

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL RESULTS**

**Champion House – Latimer**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Champions</th>
<th>Champion</th>
<th>Record Broken</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9 years</td>
<td>Jye Pankhurst/Declan Paech</td>
<td>Chelsea Holloway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 years</td>
<td>Eden Tahi</td>
<td>Elitina Slade</td>
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<tr>
<td>11 years</td>
<td>Dean Katsiris</td>
<td>Rebecca Veitch</td>
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<tr>
<td>12 years</td>
<td>Lachlan Cullen-Chambers</td>
<td>Britney Holloway</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 years</td>
<td>Cameron Tobi</td>
<td>Taryn Singleton</td>
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**Records Broken**

U12 Boys – 50m - Freestyle  Tim Cooper 33.16s
U12 Girls – 50m - Freestyle  Britney Holloway 30.34s
U12 Girls – 50m - Breaststroke  Britney Holloway 43.41s
U12 Girls – 50m – Backstroke  Britney Holloway 35.66s
U12 Girls – 25m – Butterfly  Britney Holloway 15.60s
U10 Girls – 50m – Backstroke  Elitina Slade 42.28s

**LIBRARY REPORT**

Library Books

All library books need to be returned to the library as soon as possible ready for stocktake. If you have any problems please contact Mrs Norgate.

**2012 National Year of Reading**

GCCC Libraries are running summer reading sessions in the holidays. Check out your local library for what’s on. Get in early for a great year of reading in 2012!!!

Fran Norgate / Teacher Librarian

**TUCKSHOP ROSTER**

**WHAT’S ON IN OUR HALL**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Who</th>
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<td>Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>3.00-4.15pm</td>
<td>Bully Busters &amp; Fun Games</td>
<td>Brett 0408 765 982</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Ben 0403 009 555</td>
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<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>3.45-5.15pm</td>
<td>Cheer &amp; Dance Academy</td>
<td>Holly 0409 044 831</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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Should you be interested in any of these programs run in our hall kindly contact the companies direct. Bookings for hall space are made with Jan at the office on 5501 2333.

**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**GUITAR ROCK WORKSHOPS FOR BEGINNERS**

4 days during school holidays. All guitars supplied. Students aged 8-13. No experience needed. Stuart Humphrey, qualified tutor. See Mrs Miller in the music room for an information sheet.

**FOR SALE**

Pool/Air Hockey table, 7’ x 3’, as new, $350 ono. Purple lounge, 1 x 3 seater & 1 x 2 seater, as new, $250 ono – please phone Gail on 0400 493 313.

**CHRISTMAS/New Year Tennis Clinic Nerang**

$5.00 per day 2 hour lesson – 8.00-10.00am or 4.00-6.00pm. 12-23 December, 9-20 January – please call 5596 0308.

**TITANS SCHOOL HOLIDAY COACHING CLINIC**

– Wednesday 18 January 2012, 10.00am-2.00pm, Miami State School, Oceanic Drive, Mermaid Waters. Boys and girls 5-12 years. $25 per child. Bookings essential. Register now - 0450 106 090, titansbooking@live.com

**SWIMMING & TENNIS HOLIDAY CAMPS**

– Mudgeeraba Creek State School Performance Centre - 12-16 December (Possibly open week of 19-23 numbers permitting). Reopen Tuesday 3 January and run until 18 January 2012. www.funnfitnessvacationcare.com, Monday – Friday 7:30am – 5:30pm – from $12/day with 100% child care benefit, $45/day without. All Excursions included in costs.

Suzelle
We would like to thank all the parents who have helped our Fundraising Efforts this year. Whether you have purchased raffle tickets, sent money for Mothers/Fathers Day Stalls, attended Trivia Night or Fashion Show, bought food at the Fete or donated goods/services for us to raffle or auction off - it has been truly appreciated and we thought we’d let you know where this money has gone. These are all items that are not provided by Education Queensland.

Total Raised $17,014.62

The remaining $8,000 is money raised in the last couple of months and is as yet unspent; however we are already thinking of ways which will benefit our kids the best. Come to a meeting next year and have your say!! New ideas ALWAYS welcome!!