FOR YOUR DIARY

| Monday   | 20 February | P & C AGM |

PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT

I cannot recall a more organised and calm first school day at Gilston. I pay tribute to professional staff as they welcomed 632 students on the day, approximately 150 of them new to our school. Equally I salute you, our parents, for the preparation that was obvious in the presentation of the students. Not even a crowded car park dampened the positive spirit that pervaded the day. Thank you one and all!

It took two days for our first significant challenge of the year – rain and lots thereof! Again our school community rallied to ensure the safety of all members and the minimisation of any damage to facilities. I was pleased though not surprised with the response to my request for assistance on Tuesday to combat some drainage issues in the school. Typical of the Gilston community spirit more than 30 people called within an hour. Many more have offered assistance since. I am proud to say a school where all members of the community are keen to help.

The closure of the school on Wednesday was a disappointment for me. It was the first time since I became a principal in 1990 that I have had to take this action and I am very grateful for your prompt response to collect children. The local issues that led to the closure have been, or are in the process of being, rectified. Road closures on the other hand are out of our control. I can assure you that if roads are closed and you cannot collect your child, be aware that our staff will remain on site to supervise and care for children until collection is possible. Never risk crossing flooded roads.

Due to the rain, the finalisation of roll classes has been disrupted. Once we have more clarity of the number of students in each year level, changes will be made. The extensive experience of our staff will mean this process will be undertaken with minimal disruption.

If you are reading this newsletter in a paper form and would like to receive it via e-mail, please lodge an address with the ladies in the office. Receiving them electronically has advantages including guaranteed delivery and the easy access to internet links such as www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au, the school website where archives of previous newsletters can be found.

Thank you for your keenness to settle accounts promptly. Please use the internet and your child's EQID as reference where possible (bank details and instructions available at the school office). Payments with cash or credit card can be made face to face on Thursdays and Fridays.

Gilston State School is a “uniform school”. It is apparent that you are proud of this fact given the presentation of your children this week. Details of the expectations regarding uniform and many other aspects are located in the handbook on our website.

Does your child have access to social networking sites on the internet? How do you supervise their activities? Please consider.

Whooping cough affected some of our students last year. To assist in diminishing the risk of spreading this debilitating disease, please make yourself aware of the symptoms and seek medical advice early.

In closing this week I extend a warm welcome to the “new” members of the Gilston State School family. I trust that your association with us will be rewarding. I look forward to your contributions in the future.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S DEPOSITION

Do not go gentle into that good-night.
Old age should burn at close of day.

You probably don’t understand those words above, so I’ll tell you about what I think it means. And if it applies to you it’s important to realise that if you continue learning and striving to achieve, you will stay on top of the game. No matter what. However it’s up to you. If you think it’s too hard, it will be; if you think you’re too tired, you’re too lazy, whatever – you will be.

But if you continue to learn and keep your mind positive and open you will continue to improve in every way. At school, at home, with your friendships, everything. You will become famous in the ever changing world you live in. Remember the grade you’re in is just a number, where you are with your studies is not a condition, so think - “I’m a great person. I can do anything I set my mind to.”

Think positive and live your dreams.

When you take that first step through the gate you’re thinking about what you’re going to learn today. When you step out at the end of the day you’re thinking; what did I do today to make me feel proud?

I’d like to think that every student who walks through the gate at Gilston State School every morning is thinking this way.

Reminder: There is no formal supervision before or after school. It is your responsibility as parents to ensure your child’s behaviours are safe and support the smooth operation of the school. Teachers and support personnel are required to attend to other duties at these times including planning and preparation.
P & C NEWS

Welcome to all our new and existing families, 2012 is already well underway. Your P & C plays a vital role in supporting your child/ren’s schooling. I encourage you to become a member of the P & C and find out what it’s all about. The AGM is being held Monday 20 February, 2012. All executive positions become vacant and a new committee is elected on the night. Your P & C runs the uniform shop, oversees the tuckshop and coordinates the crossing/lollipop supervisors daily of an afternoon. As families move on to other areas, volunteers return to the work force or their children progress to high school, we always need to replenish our regular volunteers.

Your help is desperately sought.

Volunteers Needed:
CROSSING/LOLLIPOP supervisors: We have no crossing supervisor for Tuesday/Wednesday/Friday afternoons. The parents currently helping can’t continue past next week.
UNIFORM SHOP: Every 2\textsuperscript{nd} Friday 8.30 – 9.30am. If we have to employ a convener then the prices will have to increase. Can you help NOW?
NOTICE BOARD ADVERTISING
Advertising opportunities exist for your business on the school notice board. Keeping it in the community. Contact Trent on 0430448684 for details.

Please contact me direct if you feel you can help or if you have any questions or queries.

Narelle Reed P & C President Tel: 0403046920

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Monday 30 January – no help required
Ice Blocks – Mel Wright
Tuesday 31 January – Melissa Heu
Ice Blocks – Vicki Johnston
Wednesday 1 February – Donna Clarke
Ice Blocks – Traci Zimmerman
Thursday 2 February – Julie – Anne Campbell
Ice Blocks – Angela Prendergast
Friday 3 February – Mandy Barbitta
Ice Blocks – Electra Rorie

Welcome back everyone. I do hope that you and your children had a fantastic Christmas.

The tuckshop is run by the P & C and profits are directed to your children through projects such as new playgrounds, airconditioning of buildings, pram ramps, etc. With the help of the tuckshop volunteers over $11,000 was raised last year. We are always looking for volunteers to help in the tuckshop as without the help of mums and dads like you, the tuckshop will not be able to operate 5 days a week. If you can spare an hour or two once a week, fortnight or month please fill in the attached volunteer availability sheet and drop it in. Remember your child will love seeing you behind the counter!

Please also find attached the menu for Term 1. On the menu you will find tips on how to place your child’s order.

Have a great week

Suzelle

WHAT’S ON IN OUR HALL

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<tr>
<td>Monday</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>Ben 0403 009 555</td>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
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<td>Cheer &amp; Dance Academy</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

ART CLASSES with Sharon Hindle – Worongary - Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 3.30-5.30pm. $20 each lesson. Phone: 0407179379 or 5574 8842 or www.sharonhindle.com for more information.

CAPRI SHARKS HOCKEY CLUB SIGN ON Saturday 10 February, 10.00am-12.00pm - Gold Coast Hockey Centre, Musgrave Avenue, Labrador. Contact: http://www.caprisharks.com.au.

NERANG TENNIC CLUB – Junior Coaching Monday to Thursday 4.00-5.30pm – Cost $10 – Contact John on 5596 0308 / 0411 154 353
# Tuckshop Volunteer Availability

Please come and join our TEAM of mums & dad that help in the tuckshop on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis. With your help we are able to operate the tuckshop 5 days a week. Profits made by the Tuckshop are directed back to your child/children. Together Everyone Achieves More (TEAM)!

Name: ........................................................................................................................................

Contact Phone Number/s: ........................................................................................................

Please tick how often and when you can be available.

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