FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>24 February</td>
<td>Last day payment</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Swimming Years 1, 2, 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday to Monday</td>
<td>27 February 12 March</td>
<td>Bookfair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>29 February</td>
<td>Ready Reader Program 9.15-11.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>Last day payment for Trivia Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>18 March</td>
<td>Working Bee 9.00-11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>27 April</td>
<td>Disco</td>
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PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT

I was pleased to take part in the Investiture Assembly at Nerang State High School last Thursday. During this assembly school leaders were recognised in a variety of roles. From the list of recipients I noted that ex-Gilton students secured three school prefects positions, two were elected to student council and one elected as junior council representative. I was proud to share the stage at their presentation.

Our current leaders, the year sevens have returned from their leadership days at Tallebudgera this week. Again the centre staff members were impressed with their conduct.

As the parent of a year seven child, know that we collectively share your pride in this report. I salute our teachers too for their contribution to this result.

On the topic of year sevens representing our school, I draw attention to the upcoming Canberra tour. I am aware that general information about the tour has been shared by teachers. Shortly, a letter seeking a deposit by March 9, please see me.

We may have some “superfish” in our midst. Later in the newsletter Scott has included the names of participants in the district swimming trials. I congratulate all swimmers for their respective achievements and wish those who are progressing to the regional trials all the best.

In the coming weeks there will be trials for a variety of sports in the region. Scott Stavar, our physical education teacher, manages nominations for students from Gilston and has a good rapport with most, if not all, of the managers of the respective sports. If you want more information about these trials please contact Scott.

The finishing touches to the new prep building will be completed in the coming weeks. Turf was laid yesterday and fencing will be erected to protect it while it establishes. This means that you will need to take alternative routes around the “old preschool building”. I thank you for your patience as we complete the job.

Excitement is building across the school as the installations of the interactive white boards occur. These pieces of technology will provide an additional resource to the teachers in the delivery of programs. I recognise that without the financial backing of the P & C and Gilston Club, placing a board in every classroom would not have been possible at this time. This is yet another good reason to support these groups as they provide “extras” for our children. I also recognise Graeme’s management of the process to ensure we received best value for money and importantly, installation early in the year.

The first working bee of the year will be held on 18 March from 9.00-11.00am. Whilst our preference is to choose the cooler months, the heavy rains early this year necessitated a change to the timing. Please mark your calendar accordingly and monitor the newsletter for further details. If you are new to our school, these days provide an opportunity to meet others over a BBQ after your efforts.

The Parent Ready Reader program scheduled for next Wednesday is open to all parents. Participants will explore: the wide range of literacy experiences that happen daily and how these can provide opportunities for learning in natural and exciting ways; the knowledge that effective readers use; and ways to engage children in reading. I invite you to come along to the session to gain skills in helping children to read. Please feel free to bring a friend. Call Pat on 5501 2333 to book your place.

Stay safe and keep smiling.
Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S DEPOSITION

He that is good at making excuses is seldom good at anything else.

Take responsibility for yourself, admit and come to terms with your errors and limitations, build on your strengths and work on improving your weaknesses. We all make mistakes and we all have gifts to offer. Move on and concentrate on how you can improve yourself and grow and succeed. Remember you and only you are really in charge of you.

I’d like us all to use the above as an avenue to start conversations with children about how they can make sense of, and deal with, the issues that they will encounter in everyday life. All children at Gilston State School have been taught the school rules and how they should deal with issues that arise at school. The four Cs – Care, Co-operation, Consideration and Courtesy are the cornerstone of those rules. Children are able to recite them and apply them in the majority of cases and these values are constantly being reinforced in classrooms. However, as a school community we need to be diligent in our efforts to maintain these values so as to maximise the academic potential and social emotional well-being of every child at Gilston. Unfortunately the incidences of poorly thought out decisions are increasing both in the classroom and the play areas.
There is a perception that we live in an increasingly hostile, ego-centric world. Images and ideas that children gain through their observations of the world will shape their behaviours (ways of doing). The important thing to remember here is, that that is only one view of the world. It doesn’t have to be, and shouldn’t be, the view children should or have to adopt. So back to the beginning, have regular chats with your children about how they are coping and look for solutions that are positive. Together find a means of improving weaknesses and moving forward, to infinity and beyond in every child’s life.

P & C NEWS
We welcomed many new faces to Monday night’s AGM. We are delighted our long serving member Ruth Emerson is now the Association’s Secretary. Jemma Baldwin has stepped into the role of Vice President and Trent Firmin continues on as Treasurer. I feel privileged to accept the role of President for another year. Our audited financial report card for 2011 confirmed the association’s sound financial position enabling us to already provide donations to the school for the benefit all the children. We will be making a contribution towards electronic white boards for every class to be completed this term. A number of air conditioners require replacement and with the financial support from the P & C, our school is working to have this happen as soon as possible. One of our initial projects and events that was discussed and approved for 2012 is financial support towards the Year 7 Kokoda Challenge, so keep an eye out for a note from Mrs Faulkner who is coordinating this year’s event.

Pencil in Sunday 18 March for a working bee. With all the heavy rains our drains are full, and the mulch has moved. We have also set a date for the next disco as Friday 27 April. Our Gilston Club team have hit the ground running and will be providing some very exciting updates throughout this and every newsletter.

Gilston History
Our school is the cornerstone of the local Gilston history and over time the precious photos and written memorabilia has dissipated. A project, led by Yolanda Dickmann, to gather our history and create an electronic record for current and future generations to share has commenced. We are looking for parent, grandparent and community hands-on support. If you have some time or contacts please contact Yolanda via email: ydick1@eq.edu.au. We look forward to supporting this exciting project.

Uniform Shop
Stocks of house shirts have arrived, so for new students once you have been allocated your sports house, you can order either online via www.flexischool.com.au, or at the uniform shop direct.

Looking forward to a wonderful 2012.

Kind regards, Narelle Reed P & C President Tel: 0403046920

PARENT READY READER PROGRAM
INVITATION to
Parents and Carers of students in Prep to Year 3
As your child’s first teacher you have a key role in the literacy and numeracy development of your child.
The Parent Ready Reader Program explores:
• the wide range of literacy experiences that happen daily and how these can provide opportunities for learning in natural and exciting ways
• the knowledge that effective readers use and ways to engage your child with reading

Would you like to know more? Come along and learn how to support your child to become a confident reader.

Date: Wednesday 29 February 2012
Time: 9.15 – 11.00am
Venue: Gilston State School Staffroom.
RSVP: by contacting the school on 550 12333

You are welcome to bring along a friend or family member who may also be interested.
LIBRARY REPORT
Bookclub Issue 1 orders have arrived back at school and may be collected from the library.
Bookfair (27 February – 12 March)
Special Parent Preview on Monday 27 February at 2.30pm. Come on down and check out the new publications and Easter gift ideas.
35% in commission of total sales comes to the library in book form.
Bookfair is open from 8.30am
National Year of Reading 2012
2012 will see a whole heap of amazing, fun, reading activities taking place around Australia and online. Be part of it!!
Easter Colouring Competition
Entries will be sent to classrooms. They will also be available from the library. Prizes all year levels. Entries will close Friday 16 March.
Library Queries – Phone: 55 012 304
Fran Norgate / Teacher Librarian

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
Thursday 23 February – Angela Prendergast
Ice blocks – Kristie Boyton
Friday 24 February – Mandy Barbitta, Alex Wilson McCarthy
Ice Blocks – Electra Roria
Monday 27 February – Suzy Thomas
Ice Blocks – Tammy Gierse
Tuesday 28 February – Mel Heu
Ice Blocks - Vicki Johnston
Wednesday 29 February – Tammy Bowden
Ice Blocks – Mel Wright
Thursday 1 March – Julie-Anne Campbell
Ice Blocks – Bruce Hart
Friday 2 March – Mandy, Tracey Zimmerman
Ice Blocks – Kamila Bestmann.

Flexischools – don’t forget we now have the convenient way of ordering uniforms and tuckshop online. Go to www.flexischools.com.au.
For every online order placed your child will go into a weekly draw to win a free “Slushie”.
Volunteers – it is wonderful to see so many new mums and dad in the tuckshop. Thank you to everyone who volunteers.
Together Everyone Achieves More (TEAM).
Preps and Tuckshop – working with the teachers we have decided to allow Prep students to place orders for lunch. At this stage only paper bag orders, no slushies or ice blocks.

WHAT’S ON IN OUR HALL

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Who</th>
<th>Contact</th>
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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, Ben 0403 009 555</td>
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<td>Tuesday</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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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
NERANG BMX CLUB is holding their NATIONAL COME AND TRY DAY Sunday 26 February - 10.30am-2.30pm. Bring your bike, helmet, long pants, long top, closed in shoes. SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND DRINKS SUPPLIED. Come and try the OLYMPIC SPORT of BMX at the corner of Mortensen Rd and Cayuga Rd For Fun and Fitness MUDGEERABA HOCKEY CLUB. All ages welcome. View our Website: www.mudgeehockey.com. Sign on now. Sport should be fun in an encouraging environment.
Gilston State School

Trivia Night 2012

When: Saturday 24 March 2012
Where: Gilston State School in the undercover area (near Tuckshop)
Time: 6.30pm for 7.00pm start
Cost: $10.00 per person
BYO: Chair and plate of nibbles

The Gilston Club would like to invite you all to a great night full of prizes and laughs! All money raised goes towards buying much needed items for our Gilston kids.

For those of you who are daunted by the word “Trivia”, don’t be - you work as a team so someone at your table may know the answer. Tables are limited to 10, so please organize your groups as soon as possible. We encourage a theme event for each table with the winner earning extra points (optional of course).

Please write the table captain name and phone number, and the other members of your table on an envelope with the total money enclosed. Envelopes can be left at the office. For those of you on your own or who only have a small group, please put an envelope into the office with your details and we will assign you a table. You never know you could end up on the winning table!

**Envelopes with the money must be in the office by 9.00am Friday 16 March AT THE LATEST!**

We are a licensed venue. **NO BYO.** Alcohol, tea, coffee and soft drink will be available to purchase. All you need is your chair and a plate of nibbles to share at your table. There will be a continual raffle held during the evening and at the end of the questions, there will be an auction. Keep watching the newsletter for auction items.

If you have any further questions regarding the night, or should you wish to donate something for either the raffle or auction, please contact one of the following ladies:

Alex Wilson McCarthy 0404429534,
Mia Pyyvaara 0411822121 or email at mia@onthenet.com.au
Lisa Cochram 0414912217
Chris Gomersall 0406873763