FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>27 February</td>
<td>Bookfair</td>
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<td>Monday</td>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>Bookfair</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>9 March</td>
<td>Last day payment</td>
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<td>Canberra Deposit Yr 7</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Gilston Club meeting</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>9.00am in the Library</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>16 March</td>
<td>Last day payment</td>
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<td></td>
<td>for Trivia Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>18 March</td>
<td>Working Bee</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>9.00-11.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>24 March</td>
<td>Trivia Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>30 March</td>
<td>Last day Term 1</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Easter Concert in Hall</td>
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<td>Prep to Year 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>16 April</td>
<td>First day Term 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>27 April</td>
<td>Disco</td>
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PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT

Women - we wouldn’t “be” without them. Tomorrow is International Women’s Day, an annual event to focus attention on women throughout the world. From a child’s perspective there are women in their lives whose commitment has an immeasurable influence. Top of the list in most cases are mothers however I encourage you to explore others in your child’s lives that play a vital part. Schools are organisations where there are a large percentage of female employees contributing daily to the positive developments in our young people. This may be a good place to start. The international theme this year for the celebration is Supporting Women’s Economic Empowerment. For more information visit [http://www.internationalwomensday.org.au/](http://www.internationalwomensday.org.au/)

National assessment occurs in May each year. The results of these assessments are utilised at a range of levels from Federal Government to family conversations. To assist parents understand the processes and the assessments, information has been posted on the NAPLAN website. Visit: [www.nap.edu.au/Documents/PDF/NAPLAN_2012_Parents_Brichure.pdf](http://www.nap.edu.au/Documents/PDF/NAPLAN_2012_Parents_Brichure.pdf) if you seek further information, or talk to your child’s teacher.

By way of reminder I ask that care be taken when paying online or by Bpay to ensure your hard-earned money is reconciled against your child’s account. Use the EQ number (10 digits and a letter) when transferring money and use the Bpay reference number when using Bpay.

Redirecting someone to observe established rules is often an uncomfortable conversation, especially when it relates to telling parents not to park illegally or within the staff car park. Please help our staff avoid having to have these uncomfortable conversations by observing the basic courtesies expected of all community members.

Goal setting is something that has proven positive outcomes, or at least it does when we attain them. I have spoken to several classes of students about goal setting this year and importantly about having clearly defined strategies to achieve their goals. Please take some time to demonstrate the process by explaining to your children how you set goals in your lives.

As you will be aware, the Australian Curriculum is being adopted and adapted at Gilston in English, Mathematics and Science in 2012. Our teachers have applied their extensive skills and experience to ensure positive outcomes for all students. The collaboration evident in the planning and assessment bodes well for a successful transition. I wish to applaud all our teachers for their dedication to this task.

In closing, I salute those of you who are taking your “super modelling” job seriously. Your children and the children of other parents at our school will be richer for your positive role model.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S DEPOSITION

Last Friday our School Captains went to a seminar designed to give all students skills, tips and ways of dealing with negative peer pressure in a variety of mediums. Some of what they learnt is going to be the topic they’ll talk about at Assembly this week. They learnt about safety and the World Wide Web, as well as how to make school safer, happier places for all children.

The day was a huge success for our captains as an empowering tool to develop them further as leaders. Their task now is to motivate their peers at Gilston State School.

Through what they have learnt, in conjunction with the school’s social-emotional program and pastoral care program (which will come on board next semester), we’ll reach our goal of better outcomes for all students.

Schools as Economies of Recognition

If parents are supportive, the children are willing, the teachers are capable and the task is achievable, why do we have instances of individuals having ideas of low ability academically and negative assumptions of self-worth? The underlying assumption here is the Hegelian one that how we are recognised is crucial to our sense of who we are. Specifically how do children attending Gilston State School see themselves while they’re at school? The way in which a problem is framed can determine what choices are made about how to solve it.

Gilston State School seeks to frame this problem not as a low self-worth issue but as a matter of connectedness. This alternative way of framing the problem means that the school can take steps to ensure that theirs becomes a connected school. A place where we can provide a venue, at which students feel accepted, valued, respected, and included in the school. Research shows that school connectedness is one of the key components in building a child’s resiliency and thus increasing their chances of surviving the most difficult of life circumstances.

The empowering of school leaders and the development of a student council to play a real part in school affairs, along with a social-emotional program and pastoral program, all working at different levels will be used to build a connectedness between all children in the school community, including families, school staff and the wider community. This will be our goal for the year. The important element is the interaction between these levels and all student groups to achieve mutually reciprocal relationships. It’s worth noting that the
values which the school endorses as contributing to school connectedness are those of care, courtesy, co-operation and consideration.

Don’t be afraid to take a big step if one is required. You can’t cross a chasm in two small jumps.

Bully Busters are on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3:15pm to 4:15pm cost $10 each session. Give your children another avenue to develop skills to deal with pressures that will come their way. The lessons centre on children learning ways to defeat the bully without fighting. Parents are welcome to come along and be a part of the fun.

Queensland Transport - Surfside Bus Company bus pass distribution will be completed by 9 March. Students are allowed to continue using 2011 passes until this time. New applications can take up to two weeks to complete, during this time if students advise the driver that an application has been submitted, they are allowed to travel for free until their pass is received. Any enquiries after 9 March can be directed to Surfside Buslines, Schools section via e-mail; schools@tagroup.net.au or telephone 55716555, extension 204.

All passengers who utilise the before and after school bus service, or any other form of public transport are subject to the Queensland Transport/Main Roads Code of Conduct and Safety Policy. If your child contravenes this policy they will be held accountable under its terms. This may mean any offenders will need to seek alternative arrangements for travel.

P & C NEWS

Working Bee – Sunday 18 March 9.00am–11.30am. We each have our own reasons for choosing Gilston for our children, one of those may be the wonderful setting with gardens and nature at every turn. Your help is needed to keep it looking good. We are planting new trees and plants kindly, arranged by Cas from the Gold Coast City Council, and spreading fresh mulch, thanks Greg. All hands are most welcome. There are things the children can do to help and we will turn on the Barbie at the end.

Year 7 Seniors Polo’s - Tomorrow is your last chance to order a year 7 senior shirt. The order forms are attached, and need to be placed in the collection box at the office.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Thursday 8 March – Kirsty Feld
Friday 9 March – Mandy Barbitta
Monday 12 March – Suzy Thomas
Tuesday 13 March – Mel Heu
Ice Blocks – Vicki Johnston
Wednesday 14 March – Tammy Bowden
Ice Blocks – Leanne Kirk
Thursday 15 March – Emma Fahey
Ice Blocks – Bruce Hart
Friday 16 March – Mandy Barbitta
Ice Blocks – Elektra Rorie

flexischools - www.flexischools.com.au order tuckshop online and your child will go into the weekly draw for a free Slushy.

Paul’s Collect A Cap - we still collect Paul’s milk bottle caps. For every cap we collect Paul’s will donate 10 cents.
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

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 18 March AT THE LATEST!**

We are a licensed venue. NO BYO. Alcohol, tea, coffee and soft drink will be available to purchase.

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 Pyyyara - 0411822121 or email at mia@onthenet.com.au  
Lisa Cochram - 0414912217  
Chris Gomersall - 0406873763
Year 7 Senior Shirts – 2012

We are placing an additional order of the year 7 shirts. We have been asked to remind you that this is the uniform the students must wear while on the Canberra excursion. [They are not planning on doing any laundry while away].

Price: $25.00 each.

Orders Due: Thursday, 8 March, 2011 with delivery a fortnight after.

My sincere apologise to the students whose names were spelt incorrectly, these will be rectified in this print run. Regards, Narelle

Please complete order form below and drop into the collection box at the office

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Price: $25.00 x _____ = $ .00

Cheque Attached: ☐ [Payable to Gilston State School P & C Association]

Direct Deposit: ☐ BSB: 064 451 AC: 10034465 Gilston State School P and C Ass
Reference: Student name Y7 Receipt number: ________________
[Note the P&C Bank account is a different account to the school account]

Credit Card: ☐ Card Number: _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ 
Expiry Date: _ _ / _ _ Card Type Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐

Name on Card: ____________________________
Signature: ______________________________
I hereby authorise Gilston State School P & C association to process this transaction.