principal’s comment
After three days away from school, it is a comfort to be back in familiar surrounds. I consider myself fortunate to have a team of people whose leadership is of a level that minimises the impact of my absence. If you are among those who have left messages for me to make contact, please be assured I will do so as soon as possible.

Developing resilience in students is a focus at Gilston. Graeme’s leadership has been pivotal to the outcomes we are witnessing in many of our students. As parents you can assist in this learning by promoting the concepts captured in the information sheets located on our website. These articles refer to a range of skills that will support the overall development of confidence and resilience.

Building and maintaining positive parent/teacher communication has a significant impact on a student's success at school. To promote and support this communication, teachers will conduct meetings with parents of students in their classes in terms 1 and 3. Please accept these opportunities to converse about your child to gain the most from the school experience.

I am looking forward to welcoming many new faces to the army of workers at the working bee on Sunday. Your contribution of a few hours, when combined with that from others, leads to a substantial improvement to our contribution of a few hours, when combined with that from an army of workers at the school.

Feedback from teachers and students alike reinforce the decision to prioritise the installation of interactive white boards in every classroom. The digital options now available to all teachers enhance the learning environments. It is important to recognise that without financial support from the P&c and Gilston Club, this outcome would not have been possible at this time.

Reconciling payments made through the internet is a simple task if the correct references are included by you. Again I remind you to use the BPay reference number for BPay payments and the EQ number for other money transfers.

I have fielded several inquiries about whether Gilston State School will be a polling booth for the State election on March 24. The answer is yes. The staffroom will be made available for this purpose.

The trivia night is just around the corner. It is a very informal event and an opportunity to fill a table and enjoy the company of your friends. There will be tables where the dressing up will be the focus, others will be focused on the culinary delights they bring to share, others will be there for the auction and of course there may be some who are there for the questions. History tells me though that having fun is the first priority and that the questions are simply an excuse to come out and play. I hope to see you there.

Stay safe and keep smiling

Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S DEPOSITION

I don’t believe in a fate that falls on someone however they act. I do believe in a fate that falls on them unless they act.

We’ve spoken quite a bit lately about being responsible, taking the lead and so on. It’s heartening to see so many children rise to the challenge. Last week’s assembly was an example of students taking the lead and in so shaping theirs and others’ futures. Well done to our School Captains for their presentation and the Sports Captains in their initiative to start and run organised games at lunch times.

We all need to be in charge of our own destinies and need to face up to the fact that any decision made will lead to an outcome. The right choices will give favourable outcomes, whereas poorly thought out ones won’t. To be successful in our academic lives, students must make it happen. They must strive for better. However, in their personal lives it’s said it’s better to let things happen naturally.

It’s easy to come down on yourself or others when things don’t go your way. Sometimes things outside of your control take over and create situations that just aren’t fair. There’s often nothing you can do about these circumstances but the key to success is how you plan and react to the situation. Malcolm Fraser once said ‘life wasn’t meant to be easy’ and a retort to that could be ‘it’s not supposed to be so hard’. Perhaps hard is just a state of mind? Seize the day; you may never get the chance to embark on such an adventure again.

The Kokoda Challenge is one such way we can see students in charge of their lives, changing their futures. This initiative teaches young people that their achievements in life are directly related to the effort they contribute, whether that be at school, away from school, or in personal relationships. It serves to teach young people that the consequences of choices they make will have a profound effect on their happiness, future, lifestyle and what they achieve. It’s great to see the teachers giving up their time to train our students and also parents coming along in support.

The LOTE enrichment day is another example of students in charge of their lives, changing their futures. It doesn’t matter if it’s an academic pursuit or sporting one. There’s always going to be something for anyone to take up and through it make a positive change. Students from Gilston were able to mix with their peers from the other schools in our district and the experiences they took away will empower...
them in all the ways mentioned in the preceding story. Look out for more enrichment days in the coming months. What’s your poison? It all goes to making better learners, better citizens of the future. Well done to all who participate in whatever endeavour they pursue.

P & C NEWS
Working Bee this Sunday 18 March 9.00am–11.30am. You can make a difference at our school. Bring your gloves, spades and barrows if you have them. Its light work with a BBQ at the end.

School Fees - a reminder that the school is currently accepting your annual student fee payments - $70.00 per child to a maximum of $140.00 per family. This voluntary payment contributes directly to your child’s resources and facilities at school. We encourage you to make your payments by electronic deposit to the school account: Gilston State School General Account BSB 064-468, Account: 1001 2086. Please note this is a different account to the P & C account.

Gilston History - a project is underway to electronically capture our history. If you have time to spare please contact Yolanda via email: yangick1@eq.edu.au

Uniform Shop opens Tuesday 2.15 – 3.15pm and Friday 8.30–9.30am or order online: www.flexischools.com.au

Have a great week, cheers.
Narelle Reed P & C President Tel: 0403046920

GILSTON CLUB
Last chance to get your TRIVIA NIGHT MONEY IN! We have had some awesome Auction items come in, the Gibson Family in Prep c/- Vanderfield in Nerang have donated a “John Deere Maxi Loader Tractor” ride on toy, valued at over $300. The Cochram family have a Vodafone framed and signed shirt by Jamie Whincup and Craig Lowndes. Thank you to these families for their on going support! Our next meeting is yet to be confirmed as we would like to go back to our original day – Thursday, so we’re working on making this happen! Watch this space!!!

Alex Wilson-McCarthy

CROSS COUNTRY
This year’s event will be held on Tuesday 27 March

9.15am Prep & Year 1
9.30am Year 2
9.50am Year 3
10.10am 9 years
10.30am 10 years
10.50am 11 years
12.20pm 12 & 13 years

Spectators are always welcome. Bring a chair.

We look forward to a great day.

Scott Stavar / HPE Teacher

Last week, Elliana Slade competed at the Regional Swimming Carnival in 50m girls backstroke. She finished in a very credible 8th out of 14. This means she is the 8th fastest on the Gold Coast. “Well done Elliana.”

LIBRARY REPORT
Bookfair sales totalled $5,900, giving us $2,650 of books for the Library. Thank you to all who supported this event. The $25 Book Voucher was won by James Bruce, Year 2.

National Year of Reading 2012 - 2012 will see a whole heap of amazing, fun, reading activities taking place around Australia and on line. Check out your local library. Be part of it!!

Bookclub Issue 2 closes this Friday 23 March.

Easter Colouring Competition
Prizes all year levels. Entries will close Friday 16 March.

If you have any Library Queries please phone: 5501 2304
Fran Norgate / Teacher Librarian

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
Thursday 15 March – Emma Fahey
Ice Blocks – Bruce Hart
Friday 16 March – Mandy Barbitta. Help needed please.
Ice Blocks – Elektra Rorie
Monday 19 March – No help required. Thank you.
Ice Blocks – Mel Wright.
Tuesday 20 March – Mel Heu
Wednesday 21 March – Donna Clarke
Ice Blocks – Tracey Zimmerman
Thursday 22 March – Julie-Anne Campbell
Ice blocks – Simone Beck
Friday 23 March – Mandy, Alex Wilson-McCarthy

Easter Bunny Hamper – every order place online at www.flexischools.com.au will not only go into the weekly draw for a free Slushie, but will also go into the draw for the Easter Bunny Hamper that is on display at the tuckshop. So get online, start ordering and good luck.

Have a great week.

Suzelle

WHAT’S ON IN OUR HALL

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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
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<td>Bully Busters &amp;</td>
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<td>Fun Games</td>
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<td>Cheer &amp; Dance</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

FOR SALE Band Uniform. Gold & Green trim polo shirt and 2 pairs of long black pants. Shirt size 16, Pants sizes 12 and 16. Hardly worn and in excellent condition. $30. Contact Karen 0430 295536

ST MARGARET’S PLAYGROUP NERANG IS CELEBRATING 10 YEARS - Calling all past & present families - Come & Celebrate Bischof Park Nerang - BYO Picnic, chairs, rugs - 24 March. -12.00-2.00 pm - Kay Weeks 5596 4076 - RSVP 21 March – or just turn up!

AUSSIE RULES ACADEMY PROGRAM IS FOR PLAYERS aged 10 - 14 years of age. Emmanuel College – Birmingham Rd, Carrara Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 10, 11, 12 April - 9:00am - 12:30pm $175.00 for the 3 day program (inclusive of GST) - Register before 1 April to go into the draw to win a private 1 on 1 skills session with Michael Rischitelli Hurry, as places are limited. All information is located at & bookings are to be made online at sportselite.com.au
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

TABLES AND MONEY TO BE IN BY THIS FRIDAY, 16 MARCH!

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!

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

Details of Auction and Raffle Prizes will be available prior to the night but please be aware that two of our Auction Items are a “Framed 2012 Vodafone V8 Shirt Signed by Craig Lowndes and Jamie Whincup” and a “Kids John Deere Premium Plus Tractor with Maxi Loader”.

If you have any further questions regarding the night, 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

We would still love to receive more raffle/auction items so if you can help, please contact us!