PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT

This week, on Thursday, we will celebrate Harmony Day. Harmony Day is managed by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship and coincides with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. It is a day of cultural respect, widely celebrated across schools, childcare centres, community groups, churches, businesses and federal, state and local government agencies.

The message of Harmony Day is Everyone Belongs. In 2013 the theme is: Many Stories – One Australia.

Our Australian Story is diverse. We come from many countries around the world. We each make up the pages of the bigger Australia story we share today.

I ask that all students wear orange for Harmony Day tomorrow (Thursday). The wearing of orange is to celebrate togetherness and belonging, tolerance and understanding. These are the values that make Gilston great and that make our society great.

Harmony Day is here to recognise the difference in all of us and to celebrate that, together, in harmony.

David Cramb
Principal

EVERY DAY COUNTS

As we reach the end of Term 1, parents are reminded of the importance of sending children to school every day. Being at school every day counts, with one day absent each week quickly adding up to two months of missed lessons in a year.

Unless your child is ill, it is expected that your child will be at school learning every day of the school year.

More information on the importance of regular school attendance is available at:


DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S DEPOSITION

Never let the future disturb you. You will meet it; you have to, so do so with the weapons of good sense and reason. The future often scares because of the unknown, take on the challenges of an exciting future instead of embracing the warmth of the status quo.

Gilston State School is proud of the reputation it enjoys in the community. It is hard-earned and fiercely protected through adherence to high expectations and traditional family values.

Joining the “Gilston State School family” entails committing to these expectations and values. Communication is the cornerstone of our success and parents are required to stay abreast of those aspects that affect their children.

Each parent has the opportunity to contribute to the strategic direction of the school through our Parents and Citizens Association. Involvement in either the P&C or the fund-raising subcommittee, “The Gilston Club” is highly recommended. Frequent parent-teacher consultation, both formal and informal, promotes positive working relationships that support child learning. This commitment sends a clear message to children that parents value education. Parents and caregivers are encouraged to discuss their child’s progress with teachers at mutually convenient times.

Vision

Gilston State School will provide a world-class education:

Driven by evidenced-based research;

Based on reliable, valid and timely diagnostic data;

Through creative deployment of a skilled and informed workforce;

In an environment rich in family values, parent participation and safe and aesthetically pleasing physical facilities;

Embracing technology that enhances the learning process;

Maintaining the culture of our traditional rural heritage and the focus on developing citizenship in students;

Respecting the perspectives of the traditional custodians of the land on which our buildings stand.

Philosophy of Our School

Gilston State School encourages and promotes ‘Achievement Through Understanding’. Our school motto encapsulates the belief that our role is to provide opportunities for our students to develop the skills to become creative, healthy and informed citizens who can build positive relationships while accepting the shared responsibility for developing the attributes of a lifelong learner in their school life, their home life and in the wider community.
We value highly:
Respect
Individual difference
Trust
Community participation
Teamwork
Conservative family values ("4Cs" – Care, Courtesy, Consideration and Cooperation)
Informed decision – making
High expectations; and
Responsibility for self

Gilston State School is a uniform school
We place emphasis on students impressing with who they are and what they can do, rather than with what they can adorn their bodies. We expect all children to wear our school uniform at school and when attending school excursions, trips and sporting events in accordance with the Education Act (2006).
Uniforms are sold from the Uniform Store situated underneath the old school building on Tuesdays from 2.15pm to 3.15pm and Fridays from 8.30am to 9.30am. Please mark all items of clothing clearly with student’s name for easy identification.

P & C NEWS
Last Monday was our first P & C meeting for the year. With a lot of items to cover, it was both interesting and informative. The AGM needs will be held next Monday 25 March, 2013 in the administration block. This meeting sees all positions become vacant and the election of new office bearers for 2013 then takes place. If you are interested in joining the P&C, we encourage you to come along and meet the team.

Great Gilston Disco - First Disco for 2013 will be held first Friday back in Term 2, 19 April, 5.30 to 8.30pm sharp. Tickets include food & drink vouchers and a glow stick. Purchase now for $5.00 online at www.flexischools.com.au and will they will be delivered to your child's classroom.
Kind regards, Narelle Reed P&C President Tel: 0403046920.

GILSTON CLUB NEWS
Hi Everyone,
Firstly I would like to apologise for cancelling last week’s meeting. Our first meeting of the year will now take place tomorrow, Thursday 21 March at 9.00am in the outdoor room at the back of the library. The meeting should go for no longer than an hour, but there is no obligation to stay this long if you have other things on. Bring a friend and join us for a coffee – please also feel free to bring your younger children. And for those mums who came to our first meeting last year and saw us frantically trying to organise Trivia Night and may have been put off by that, rest assured our fundraising calendar is a lot more relaxed this year.

Fun-Run – extra sponsorship forms can be obtained from the office, however, if you have any questions regarding this event, please call me direct on 0414912217, rather than the ladies in the office.

Year 7 Chocolate Drive – Year 7 have been on a selling spree over the last few weeks to raise money for their end of year activities. They still have some boxes of chocolates left over, so if you can help out and sell a box, they would be really appreciative. They sell really well in an office environment where the 3 o’clock munchies exist. Just come up to the office and ask Graeme for a box.
Looking forward to seeing you on Thursday,
Lisa – President

Last Wednesday a group of Gilston State School students, Mr Weatherburn and Mrs Derrington were treated to a very special literary experience, attending the SOMERSET CELEBRATION OF LITERATURE. Authors Belinda Murrell and Andy Griffiths spoke to the students about the many books they have written. They spoke about their writing process, how they write, how they first started writing, where their ideas come from and how to develop ideas when writing. The students had the opportunity to interact with the authors, have their questions answered, personally meet the authors and purchase their books as well as to have their books signed.
It was an entirely enriching experience afforded to Gilston students through the generosity of the Kay Family, and we are very grateful for the opportunity to attend such a wonderful event. Thank you to all of those students and families who have taken the time to thank the Kay family for their support of our students.

CROSS COUNTRY PROGRAM
Event 1 Prep and Year 1 9.15am
Event 2 Year 2 9.30am
Event 3 Year 3 9.50am
Event 4 Girls & Boys 9 Years (Only Year 4) 10.10am
Event 5 Girls & Boys (10 years) 10.30am
Event 6 Girls & Boys (11 years) 11.50am
Event 7 Girls & Boys (12 & 13 years) 12.20pm

EISTEDDFOD CHOIR
The auditions are now finished and the students have been selected for the eisteddfod choir. The list of names can be viewed on the music noticeboard. If there are any interested students in Years 3-7 who missed the auditions please see Mrs Miller ASAP. Rehearsals for this choir will begin after the Easter break.

CHOIR NEWS
Year 2 students will be able to join our junior choir next week. The choir rehearses on Mondays at first break. All interested students should take their lunch box to the music room after they are released from class.

PERFORMING ARTS COMPETITION
The auditions for our talent show are approximately 2 months away. Students should start planning their acts now. The best 15 acts will be selected to go through to the finals at the end of term 2. See Mrs Miller if you need more information.
Alison Miller / Music Teacher

STUDENT DENTAL VAN
Students in Years 2E, 2N, 2S and 2/3 have been provided with an offer of oral health care pack to take home. The pack includes: Child & Adolescent Oral Health Service Brochure and Examination Card.
If your child is enrolled in one of the classes listed above and did not receive an offer of care pack and you would like to arrange for your child to receive oral health care, please contact the Oral health Call Centre 1300 300 859, Monday-Friday 8.00am-4.30pm, excluding Public Holidays.
If you child requires disability access please identify this requirement with the Call Centre Operator.

CHAPPY’S SPACE
Breakfast club update: Thank you to Coles’ Station Street, Nerang for providing our cereal, milk and fruit breaky today and their pledge to provide a $50 gift voucher for us to cover our costs once per month. That’s awesome, thanks. Thank you to our faithful weekly helpers, you are very much appreciated!
We are still looking for volunteers to go on our Breakfast helper roster once per month from 8.00-8.45am. If you are available to help once per month please contact me sbond75@eq.edu.au.
Calling all cyclists - Chappy week is to promote awareness and an opportunity for fundraising. We are looking for cyclists to compete in the SPIN OFF competition held on 18 May. We need 10 people per team and the total time it would take to participate from rego to finish is one and half hours. It is held in Brisbane and Duncan Armstrong is the M.C with lights and music and loads of atmosphere. Parents are also invited to compete in mixed team with their children (Year 6 or 7) and teachers are welcome. We do need to register before 26 April and there are only 100 teams allowed in all, so we need to get our team registered asap http://spinoff.org.au/pack/.

Emergency Food Parcel Information - Newlife Uniting Church Robina 55789322, Gold Coast Christian Family Church 1300 883 503

Easter Camps – Easterfest – Toowoomba - A family camp or just for teens is a massive festival with many music genres and family friendly. You can camp there on site. For more info www.easterfest.com.au

Quotes:
"For prayer is nothing else than being on terms of friendship with God." - Mother Theresa
"Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value." - Albert Einstein
Have a good week.

‘Chappy’ Samantha Bond

Easter Hamper - from now to the end of term all orders placed online at www.flexischools.com.au go into the draw for an Easter Hamper full of yummy goodies and a cute Easter Bunny. Winner will be drawn at the last assembly.

Online ordering is our preferred method of ordering tuckshop and uniforms. Go to www.flexischools.com.au and click on Register now. With over 450 students now registered with us it goes to show that it really is the easiest and quickest way to order as you don't need to find the right coins, paper bags or menu, it’s just all there at the click of a button. There’s even an "app" for flexischools.

Home cooked meals - Spaghetti bolognaisse $4.00, Spaghetti bolognaisse & meatballs $4.50, Teriyaki chicken & rice $4.00, Satay chicken & rice $4.00. Also available now new on the menu - Tortellini $4.00. Cheese & crackers $2.00.
Have a great week everyone.

Suzelle & Mandy

COMMUNITY NOTICES

NETBALL PLAYERS WANTED girls 6/7 years old – Mudgeeraba
Minnie’s play at Firth Park, Mudgeeraba on Saturday mornings at 11.00am. For more information phone Stacey on 0409 629 956 or email staceandgren@bigpond.com

YOUTH WEEK – Altered Art Thursday 11 April 3.30-5.00pm - Nerang Library – phone 5581 7180 to book.

NETBALL PLAYERS WANTED – 6/7 year old girls – Mudgeeraba
Minnies play at Firth Park, Mudgeeraba on Saturday at 11.00am. For more information phone Stacey on 0409 629 956.

FREE TENNIS COACHING Saturday 9 March 8.30-9.30am adults, 9.30-11.00am children. Nerang Tennis Club 0411 154 353.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
Thursday 21 March – Donna Kafea
Ice Blocks – Simone Beck
Friday 22March – Mandy, Michelle Smith
Ice Blocks – Elektra Rorie
Monday 25 March – Debbie
Ice Blocks – Mandy
Tuesday 26 March – Mandy
Ice Blocks – Help Needed
Wednesday 27 March – Mandy
Ice Blocks – Tracey Zimmerman
Thursday 28 March – Alex Wilson-McCarthy
Ice Blocks – Mandy
Friday – Good Friday
**Tuesday Sushi Order Form**

To be handed in at the Tuckshop by Monday 9.30am

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<tr>
<th>SUSHI ROLLS $3.00</th>
<th>QTY</th>
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<td>Prawn Lettuce Mayo</td>
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<td>Beef Teriyaki</td>
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<td>BBQ Pork</td>
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<td>Vegetarian Green</td>
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<td>Vegetarian Carrot</td>
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<th>Totals</th>
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Student Name: ___________________________________________ Class: __________

While every care is taken to provide your child with the sushi pre-ordered, occasionally the supplier may be out of stock. In these instances similar ingredient sushi will be substituted.
Are you interested in the environment?
What special plants do we have around here?
How can I volunteer to help the environment?
Is climate change affecting us locally?
What do our children do when they go to camp?
Can areas of bushland be restored?
What is catchment management?
What is the local council doing to help our natural environment?

COME ALONG TO OUR
OPEN DAY & FIND OUT!

How To Find Us
The Centre is located 18 minutes drive
South West of Nerang at 1721 Nerang Murwillumbah Rd.
(Leave Nerang on Price St. - follow the road for 21km - turn left
at Nerang River Pine Creek Bridge.)

Contact Us
(07) 55334148
the.principal@numinbahneeceq.edu.au
1721 Nerang-Murwillumbah Rd
Numinbah Valley Qld 4211

Numinbah Valley
Environmental Education Centre

OPEN DAY
Sunday 24th March
10AM - 2PM

Guest Speakers Include:
Griffith University - Professor Clyde Wild
11:00AM - Climate Change and its local effects

Local Botanist - David Jinks
11:45AM - Threatened plants of our local area

Centre Principal - Jim Rebgetz
1:00PM - An overview of Numinbah Valley EEC educational programs

FREE ENTRY
Food & drinks available
proceeds go towards Centre improvements

Displays On:
- Native Bees
- Worm Farming
- Wildcare
- Centre Educational Programs
- Bushland Rehabilitation

You Can Participate In:
- Canoeing
- Racing a solar boat
- Sensory walks and a Blindfold trail
- Climbing a pole (safely)