PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT

Schools are busy places at any time, however walking back in for the last four weeks of the year, it is readily apparent that there is a myriad of tasks for staff to perform as we bring the year to a successful close. To each and every one of the people working at Gilston, I tip my hat in tribute. It will be my job to ensure that we gain the best from our team by working closely together towards our goals.

Each year schools are required to conduct opinion surveys, the results of which are collated and returned to us to inform our future planning. The process of analysing this information will take place soon however it is always pleasing to see ratings that describe our school as a good school, a safe place with high expectations. All these features were rated 100% from our parent sample. Another aspect that rated 100% was, “understanding how computers and other technologies are used to enhance children’s learning”. This has certainly been a focus this year and this result is testament of parent support.

Student enrolment numbers dictate staffing, facilities and budgets and consequently the accuracy of our predictions is vital to ensure our forecasts are sensible. The data that has been collected through the “Enrolling Families” project for Prep have provided a clear basis for the younger students. I will be conferring to develop some models for staffing and roll classes shortly and will be using the data from our teachers to ensure we best match the learning needs to these models.

How have you gone with your “Supermodel” duties this year? Have you provided role models for your children and the other children at our school that support our “4 Cs” (Care, Courtesy, Consideration and Co-operation)? Have you demonstrated safety through your actions by observing simple rules like using the pedestrian crossing in front of our school? Remember you are a “Supermodel” for our young people, and for the not-so-young. Take the responsibility seriously and positively influence those around you.

Student progress reports will be distributed in the last week of the year. Teachers capture in these the levels of attainment against the standards within the Australian Curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science and History and against our Queensland curriculum standards in the remaining subjects. In addition they capture attendance details, behaviour and effort ratings, and general comments that provide an overall impression of the semester. Please take the time to peruse these reports with your child asking them to explain their learning for the year.

2014 will be a significant year in the life of primary schools across Queensland. It will be the last year we have year 7 students enrolled. Consequently planning has been underway to accommodate the changes expected. Last week we met with a group of interested parents to discuss some of the finer details about year 6 and 7 for next year. This feedback and that from the surveys distributed recently will inform our decision making in the lead up to next year.

I understand that we have trialled the use of Twitter as another form of communication for parents at Gilston. The current following isn’t significant and I will be reviewing the viability of this strategy based on follower numbers. If you want to follow us please do so @GilstonSS

It was a pleasure to spend time with volunteers this morning to express gratitude for their contributions throughout the year. I understand that many people are unable to make the morning tea and wish to extend to all volunteers my sincere thanks on behalf of the Gilston State School community.

In the lead up to 2014 we will be electing our school captains this week. Given the peculiar situation next year, there will be two captains from year 7 and two from year 6. Thus far the nominations have been acceptable; a shortlisting process has occurred and today those of the shortlist will present their speeches to the students in years 4-7. The announcement of the captains will occur on assembly on 5 December.

In closing this week I remind everyone that the first bell sounds at 8:55am and all students are expected to be here at this time in preparation for instruction. Arriving after this time disadvantages the child involved and interrupts the teaching within their classroom. Play your part of our team and have your children here on time.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S DEPOSITION

Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm

I have met many young people during my life and have observed a common thread amongst those who achieved success. Each one of these people I felt had the vital ingredient, trait or spark of enthusiasm.

FOR YOUR DIARY

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Swimming Carnival Year 4-7
LOTE Cultural Festival
Choirs sing at Melody Park
Year 6 Surf Awareness
School Captains announced at Assembly
P-4 Christmas Concert
CSIRO Lab on Legs P-5
Book Packs can be picked up 2.30-3.30pm
Yr 7 Presentation Night
Year 7 Wet N Wild
Last day Term 4
First day Term 1
This special gift separates the mediocre from the excellent, the ordinary from the special and successful from the unsuccessful. So when in doubt, take a risk, speak up, take action, step outside your comfort zone and show your enthusiasm to the world.

So thank you to Chanique and Phoenix for taking the step up, taking the time to go around our school promoting Book Fair and by your actions, instilling these traits in other students.

Some things to ponder
I've heard that we need to beware of no man more than ourselves. We carry our worst enemies within us. Probably the greatest enemies within us are self-belief and confidence and perhaps ignorance of pressures acting upon us outside of our sphere of knowledge. When John Howard made his first visit to Shanghai as Prime Minister in 1977, he opened the blinds of his hotel room and was confronted with waves of skyscrapers, like a theatrical curtain being raised on a spectacular set. In awe he asked rhetorically, "How long has this been going on?" These days we may not be easily impressed by such appearances as we gaze upon a similar backdrop along the coast we live on. As 21st Century learners though, children need us to help instil in them that they need to seize opportunities while they're available. I read recently about a boy who gets dressed, ties his shoe laces etc., leaves home every week day to catch the bus to and from school and has a level of independence, self-belief and confidence of a child much older that his age of three years. Perhaps like Mr Howard one might ask how long has this been going on? I wish all children will live lives that have them receive the best the future world will have to offer. The opportunities we give them now will go a long way to seeing this wish come true.

Parent meeting next Wednesday evening at 6.00pm in the Library
We want to take some time to explain the school's position in regard to classes and iLearning for next year. Any interested parents and caregivers are welcome so as we can gauge how best to proceed.

P & C NEWS
Air conditioning replacements, again thank you to those who have already donated. We are just over ½ way to purchasing the first of the 4 units replacements required. If you have yet to and are able, your family’s $25 donation will be greatly appreciated. Direct credit to: Gilston State School P and C Association: BSB: 064 451 Account: 1003 4465. [Note the P&C Bank account is a different account to the school account].

Meeting update - We held the last meeting for 2013 on Monday. The agenda was somewhat longer as there was a lot of discussion and contribution from around the table. Decisions are made at these meetings that directly impact across the school. With this in mind we always seek to have as many parents contribute as possible to ensure a range of views and opinions are discussed and considered. I encourage you to consider attending at least 1 meeting next year. Who knows you may enjoy it enough to return.

As each year closes many of our families move on, as such we are saying goodbye to our fabulous secretary Ruth Emerson. Ruth and Kerry have been a great help to the school over the years their girls have been with us at Gilston and their family will be greatly missed. Thank you Ruth for taking on this important role, your contribution has been greatly appreciated.

Disco fever came and went and by all accounts it was the largest we have seen and yes the children certainly know how to have fun and exhaust a lot of energy. All the new faces and parent help in the canteen were fabulous and made the evening enjoyable for all.

Senior Shirt 2014
Order forms have gone home for the senior shirt for our Year 7 and Year 6 students next year. Attached is an additional copy for those who have yet to receive it. The easiest way to order is online via Flexi Schools or with the attached form handed into the office.

Enjoy the rest of the week. Please contact me should you have any questions or queries, kind regards, Narelle Reed P&C President Tel: 0403046920.

GILSTON CLUB NEWS
Book Packs can be collected on Monday 9, Tuesday 10 and Wednesday 11 December from 2.30–3.30pm. We need 6 volunteers each day to help hand these out. If you are able to help out on any of these days, please contact me on 0414912217 (text or phone) or email me at l.lockram@bigpond.com. Your help would really be appreciated.

Lisa

LIBRARY BOOKS
Would you please return all library books to the library no later than Monday 2 December 2013.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
Thursday 28 November – Selena Duff
Ice blocks – Karen
Friday 29 November – Kellie Gibson, Alex McCarthy
Ice blocks – Kamila Bestmann
Monday 2 December – Dannie Faulkner
Ice blocks – Melissa Moore
Tuesday 3 December – Help Needed
Ice blocks – Vicki Johnston
Wednesday 4 December - Help Needed
Ice blocks – Help Needed
Thursday 5 December - Help Needed
Ice blocks - Karen
Friday 6 December – Selena Duff
Ice blocks – Kamila Bestmann

Have a great week.

Nico & Mandy

COMMUNITY NOTICES
CHEERLEADING TRYOUTS FOR 2014 – Have you got children (boys or girls) interested in tumbling, stunting and dance? Cheerleading is the answer. 14/12/13 – 11 years & under 4.00-4.45pm. 11 years & over 4.00-5.30pm – Mudgeeraba Foundation Centre, School Street, Mudgeeraba. Phone Debbie 0417164033.

FAMILY CHRISTMAS CONCERT Sunday 15 December 9.00am Impact Church, Kookaburra Drive, Gilston. All welcome

WALKIN’ ON WATER SURF SCHOOL is again very excited to be hosting the 2013 Girls Go Surfing Days at Greenmount Beach on 7 & 8 of December. To book and confirm a place, please call Walkin On Water on 0418 780 311.

NERANG JRLFC will be holding an early bird sign on for all new and existing players on Saturday 7 December 2013, 9.00am-2.00pm. A sausage sizzle will be available so come on down and meet the all new Committee and register to become a Rooster. For further information please email njrlfc@bigpond.net.au.
Year 6 Senior Shirt for 2014

We are arranging the order of the year 6 senior Polo over the school holidays. They will be sent to print the day the captains are announced. Delivery is approximately 10 days later. Please place your order now. The easiest way is online via Flexischools. No need to send in the form, it all happens automatically.

$27.00 each

Samples are available in the uniform shop for sizing as these shirts are a different brand to our regular polo.

Order by: **Wednesday: 4th December, 2013**

*If you wish to place a manual order, please complete order form and drop into the collection box at the office.*

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<th>Students Name: ____________________________</th>
<th>Year 6, 2013 Senior shirt order</th>
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Price: $27.00 x _____ = $ _____ .00

Preferred Method Payment and order method:

*Flexi Schools – Just go online place your order so easy, no need to drop the form in, all the details are there.*

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 Y6 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.
Year 7 Senior Shirt for 2014

We are arranging the order of the year 7 senior Polo over the school holidays. They will be sent to print the day the captains are announced. Delivery is approximately 10 days later. Please place your order now. The easiest way is online via Flexischools. No need to send in the form, it all happens automatically

$27.00 each

Samples are available in the uniform shop for sizing as these shirts are a different brand to our regular polo.

Order by: Wednesday: 4th December, 2013

If you wish to place a manual order, please complete order form and drop into the collection box at the office.

Students Name: ____________________________
Your contact name ____________________________
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Price: $27.00  x _____ = $ .00

Preferred Method Payment and order method:
Flexi Schools – Just go online place your order so easy, no need to drop the form in, all the details are there.

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.
Dear Parents,

The P & C is facing the **earlier than planned replacement of 4 additional air conditioning units** due to wear and tear. Having already replaced 4 units this year and provision for a further 4 units next year, the funds for these additional units are required now.

Most schools in the region/state do not have air conditioners as this is not a standard school capital item. However through fund raising support your P & C has both provided and maintained the current units over many years now. This is a costly exercise at approximately $3,000.00 per unit for replacement.

To enable the current unit replacements a donation of **$25.00** from every family is requested. Your financial support would be appreciated, by both the P & C and of course the students who are currently working without air conditioners.

Kindly credit your donation to:

**Gilston State School P and C Association**

**BSB: 064 451   Account: 1003 4465**

[Note the P&C Bank account is a different account to the school account]

Whilst your child or children may not be directly affected today, it may be their class next year which requires a replacement unit with the backlog filled as funds are available.

Thank you in anticipation of your financial support. As a community we can again pull together and see a great outcome for all our children.

Yours sincerely

Narelle Reed
President - Gilston State School P & C Association
PCYC Nerang
School Age Care
Cayuga Street
Nerang, Qld 4211
07 55782227

Providing:
BSC – 6:30 to 9:00am
ASC – 3:00 to 6:00pm
VAC – 6:30 to 6:00pm

Costs:
BSC – $ 14.50
ASC – $ 18.50
VAC – $ 52.00

PCYC Gilston SS Contact
Details:
Lisa Monteith
SAC Coordinator
M: 0418 277 403
E: lisa.monteith@pcyc.org.au
Or gilstonsac@pcyc.org.au

Xmas Vacation Care...
Our action packed Vacation care programme is out. Book & pay this month for the

**Early Bird special** of $47/day (less CCB) before the end of November. $52/day from 1
December to 13th & $55/day after this date. Book the kids in for a few activities for a break over the 6
week period. It is great to be able to provide this service at the school.
Pick up PCYC enrolment forms & booking forms for the Xmas programme from the hall or email Miss
Lisa your details.

We are growing in numbers...
We are excited to announce that we have a small group of **Foundation Pupils** for the
Gilston State School PCYC Service. We have plenty of room for more children so let your child hang
out with us Before or After school for a trial. Contact Miss Lisa

Our Community...
We are looking for donations of materials for our **Reverse Garbage** activity during the first
week of Vacation Care. This activity allows the children to turn your junk into their treasure.
Contact Miss Lisa if you can help out.

Kids Corner...
A poem written by Hannah M at ASC

PCYC is the best
Better than, All the Rest
You’re guaranteed
To get all the laughs & fun
You need
GOOOO PCYC...

Laughter is the best medicine..
What do you call an alligator with a vest on?  An Investigator (Jemma 6y)
Where do sheep shop?  Woolworths (Gabriella 9y)
Why did the one handed man cross the road?  To get to the second hand shop

Many Thanks Lisa Monteith