Another face that will not be in our midst next year will be Anne Bergin. Anne is a retired teacher who attends in a voluntary capacity to help in our classrooms, particularly Yolanda’s as she is a good friend of hers. I calculated that Anne has been volunteering for 20 years since officially retiring in 1993. It has been our pleasure to have Anne with us for these years and it is with much gratitude that on behalf of the Gilston State School community I bid her farewell. I suspect we will still see Anne around the school in 2014 but perhaps not as regularly.

Time given freely to assist others is a precious gift. Many of you have volunteered your time and talents this year in a myriad of ways and for this gift I am grateful. This week I wish to recognise the people who constitute our P & C Association and its major subcommittee, the Gilston Club. The time dedicated by the members of these groups is substantial and it is with sincerity I thank them all.

As the year’s end draws nigh, I applaud all our staff for their respective contributions to a successful year. It is the collective efforts and team work that are most productive and our students, your children, are the beneficiaries. I am proud to again be leading this wonderful school.

In closing I wish to thank those who have extended good wishes to me and my family via cards and messages. I expect that I may be unable to thank you all in person so please accept this message of thanks and my wish that your time with your families this Christmas be filled with moments upon which you will reflect fondly.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S DEPOSITION

BYO Program 2014

We’d like to thank all parents who expressed their interest in the schools initiative regarding iLearning. We will carry on learning with iPads in the classrooms using the school owned devices and will embrace the emerging opportunities of the BYO concept. We remain positive that we will pursue this initiative to its full potential in the future.
The principal goal of education is to create men and women who are capable of doing new things, not simply repeating what other generations have done. —Jean Piaget—

Once it was a piece of cast-off Hebel, Tyson has transformed it into a piece of art. Well done Tyson! Behind him is a mural Greg Phillips, Seth Bounds, Lachlan Woods and Brodhi Hannken have put together; it was once a blank wall. Thanks to all who contributed to it. Thanks to the shed boys who have decorated the school with their silhouettes and to the budding artists, Elise McCarty, Greg Phillips and the students of the SEP who have given us such beautiful colour in the office foyer. Thank you to all the children who participated in the Christmas concert. It was wonderful to see you showcasing your talent and giving all who witnessed the event so much joy.

Thank you to all the children whose work and efforts I’ve been able to witness this year. I hope you all remember these days fondly, I always will. I’ll take this opportunity to wish all and sundry a wonderful holiday with family and friends. I hope you all return in the new year to do it all again – and more. May your God go with you.

P & C NEWS
Hard to believe the school year has all but finished. On behalf of the P & C we extend our wishes to you and your families for a safe and enjoyable Christmas and we look forward to what the new year will unfold. Thank you again for the support you have shown in so many ways to the P & C.

School Photos
It was apparent by the prints that this year’s photos were not as good as previous. It is disappointing for all as school photos are the special snap shot in time that is important to both the children, us as parents and carers alike. The photographic company from this year has sent sincere apologies as the poor print colour quality was directly attributed to a fault in the digital camera used, hence reprints did not improve the pictures. This equipment is no longer in use. The P & C spend considerable time each year investigating tenders from photographic companies and reviewing portfolios taking into account the ability to deliver quality and quantity at a reasonable price for a school our size. It was therefore equally disappointing for the P & C that this year did not meet our expectations or yours. The tender process for 2014 has already begun, rest assured we will be grilling those companies on our schools requirements.

Wishing you and your families a wonderful holiday season.
Kind regards, Narelle Reed P & C President Tel: 0403046920

This week marks the end of thirteen wonderful years teaching at Gilston. I have truly been blessed to have been a part of such a fantastic school for all of these years and as I move on to the next exciting chapter in my life I take with me so many treasured memories.

When I started at Gilston my step-daughter Larissa was in grade 1 (she turns 19 next month!). Since then I went back to uni to gain my Masters, both my parents have passed away, I got married and became Mummy to my two beautiful children (Mercedes turns 5 next month and is off to Prep next year and William is now 16 months and is growing far too quickly) WOW – how time flies when you’re having fun!! I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the fabulous children, families & staff of Gilston. I will miss your delightful smiles and all the lovely ‘Hello Mrs Rogers’ (or even sometimes still a Miss Rigney) I hear coming from all directions, as I walk through the school each morning.

My official last day of teaching at Gilston was on Tuesday, as I’m off to meet my new class at Clover Hill on Wednesday, but I will be in Friday morning for the teacher’s breakfast, so if anyone is able to pop in after that (about 9.00am) I would love to see you.

It is with both tears of sadness and joy that I say goodbye to you all one last time. I wish each and every one of you peace, love and happiness for the future and thank you once again for not only touching my heart but that of my family. Gilston State School and all the wonderful people who make up this fabulous community will always hold a very special place in our hearts.

Keep Smiling – Bernadette Rogers

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 3.00-4.00pm, 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
During back-to-school season and throughout the year, one of the most important purchases on many parents’ shopping lists is a pair of proper fitting shoes for their child. There is a vast amount of choice on the market and information can often appear conflicting and confusing. Hopefully this guide will help you shop with confidence and success.

Children’s Feet Change With Age. Shoe and sock sizes may change every few months as a child’s feet grow.

Shoes That Don’t Fit Properly Can Aggravate the Feet. Always measure a child’s feet before buying shoes, and watch for signs of irritation.

Don’t Hand Down Footwear. Just because a shoe size fits one child comfortably doesn’t mean it will fit another the same way. Also, sharing shoes can spread fungi like athlete’s foot and nail fungus.

Examine the Heels. Children may wear through the heels of shoes quicker than outgrowing shoes themselves. Uneven heel wear can indicate a foot problem that should be checked out by a physiotherapist or podiatrist.

Take Your Child Shoe Shopping. Every shoe fits differently. Letting a kid have a say in the shoe buying process promotes healthy food habits down the road.

Always buy for the Larger Foot. Feet are seldom precisely the same size.

Buy Shoes That Do Not Need a “break In” Period. Shoes should be comfortable immediately. Also make to have your kid try on shoes and Socks or tights, if that’s how they’ll be worn.

Cross training shoes are a hybrid of several different types of athletic footwear. They have the heel cushioning of a running shoe, the lateral stability of a tennis shoe or basketball sneaker, and the forefoot cushioning of a volleyball shoe. This sole is versatile enough to be utilized for various activities, and the rolled heel and toe are great for walking and running. All these features makes the cross trainer the ideal sole for school children.

Good quality shoes do not need to be expensive, and can be found in most department stores and sports shops. Always check uniform requirements with your school, before buying shoes.