PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT

I am always proud to attend the Nerang State High School Investiture Assembly and so it was a pleasure to attend last week to congratulate many ex-Gilston students as they assumed a range of leadership roles within the school including school captain, prefect and student council representative. It is reward for our staff and of course their parents, to see these young people recognised for the values we hold dear at Gilston.

Back at Gilston it was our House Captains we were celebrating. For the first (and last) time we have four captains for each house as we prepare to farewell both groups at the year’s end. The Captains for 2014 are:

- **Zimmerman**
  - Jessie Zimmerman, Jai Hoff, Rylee O’Grady, Nathan Haling

- **Duncan**
  - Georgia Stansfield, Ewan Milne, Angel Faulkner, Jackson Lafferty

- **Latimer**
  - Chelsea Holloway, Jett Taylor, Chloe Rayner, Lachlan Trotter

- **Hinze**
  - Tia, Rubyn Yates-Sclater, Stella Davies, Hunter Reed

With Spelling and Reading a key agenda item in 2014 it is likely you have heard from your child about the “new” program for spelling. I commend our dedicated staff for their professional adoption of the program and congratulate them for positive results attained already. Please continue to support your child in this important aspect of their learning.

The Great Results Guarantee strategy launched by the Minister recently has afforded us an opportunity to expand and refine programs within our school to ensure all students meet the National Minimum Standard. The broad strategic direction must be prepared and signed before 28 February to allow us to access the additional funding. To gather your collective thoughts and to ensure you have an opportunity to ask any clarifying questions I invite all interested parents to meet with me next Tuesday (25 February) from 2.00-3.00pm in the hall.

Yes, I write again about attendance. This week I emphasise the importance of being on time at the start of the school day. I thank the vast majority of you for recognising the importance of punctuality to your child’s education. Letters will be sent to families whose students have arrived late repeatedly this year requiring a rectification of the habit.
Thank you for the response to the payment of the Family Contribution scheme. Your commitment will ensure continuation of current levels of excursion subsidy, enhanced facilities and specialist programs throughout the school. If you haven’t paid the contribution, please do so at your earliest convenience.

Supermodels abound at Gilston. I wish to acknowledge the efforts of our Gilston adults to ensure we set the positive examples in our daily activities. Whether it is travelling to or from school or at the school, our aim for adults to be positive role models is 100%.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

DEPUTY’S COMMENT

Chess Showcase

Gardiner Chess is sending along one of their coaches to play multiple students at the same time, next Monday at first break (24 February). If parents or family members would like to come along and watch, it would make for a very enjoyable event. If you’re early we can get you into a game if you’d like. We have a WIM (Women’s International Master) coming to pitch it to the students as a challenge to see if they can beat her………one of Australia’s top female players, no pressure. On the day we will hand out forms from Gardiner Chess explaining the enrolment process and costs.

Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes. At the time, we don’t realise what’s happening but in the end we realise that what we are and what we learn, are the results of events and lessons along the road of life. So for all students at Gilston, when you’re experiencing some mistakes, take heed in the knowledge that one day you’ll be better and wiser for them. A very poetic chap, Al Tennyson, once wrote, “And other’s follies teach us not, nor much their wisdom teaches, and most, of sterling worth, is what our own experience teaches.” So don’t count the number of times you fail, count the number of times you get back up!

CHOIR NEWS

The junior choir (Year 3) rehearse on Mondays at 1st break, senior choir (Year 4-7) Tuesdays at 1st break. On Friday 21 February the Year 2 choir starts at 1st break. Interested children need to go to the music room after the 10 minute eating time. Students are expected to attend the weekly lunchtime rehearsal.

The eisteddfod choir auditions for Years 3-7 begin on Monday 24 February. The sign-on sheet is on the music noticeboard. Auditions take place in small groups and the students are asked to sing a simple nursery rhyme and some scales.

Alison Miller / Music Teacher

INTERNET PAYMENTS

When paying invoices on the internet, please use your student’s EQ ID number from the invoice. Do not use any other number or we will not be able to identify the student for payment.

Just for this Friday 21 February the UNIFORM SHOP will be open from 8.00am to 9.00am. Thank you for your understanding.

BOOK FAIR

Monday 24 February to Friday 28 February.

Parent viewing 2.30-3.30pm.

Book Fair times are 8.00-9.00am and 3.00-3.30pm

Come and get yourself a bargain and help raise money for your school library.

SCHOOL BANKING

Unfortunately we are unable to do the banking on Friday 28 February due to insufficient volunteers. We will do the banking twice the following week so the students do not miss out – Monday 3 March and Friday 7 March.

Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

If there are any parents who would like to be involved in our banking program we are in the office every Friday morning or you can call me on 0416 085 689 any time. We love seeing new faces.

Mel Wright and the banking team

THANK YOU to the kind people who helped me out yesterday when I was broken down. It was very much appreciated.

TUCKSHOP ROSTER

Thursday 20 February – Jenny Cooper

Ice Blocks – Karen

Friday 21 February – Alex Wilson-McCarthy

Ice Blocks – Kamila Bestmann

Monday 24 February – Dannie

Ice Blocks – Student

Tuesday 25 February – Help Needed

Ice Blocks – Student

Wednesday 26 February – Stacey Gardner

Ice Blocks – Student

Thursday 27 February – Help needed

Ice Blocks – Karen

Friday 28 February – Jenny Cooper

Ice Blocks – Kamila Bestmann

To all parents and students who ordered from the tuckshop on Monday and Tuesday I apologize for the inconvenience with orders not being correct. We lost all the main freezer food and could only provide certain items.

The older students received refunds on their lunches to purchase something else from the tuckshop.
Meeting Dates for 2014

12 March
23 April
14 May
11 June
9 July
13 August
10 September
8 October
12 November

All meetings, unless otherwise advertised, will be on Wednesdays at 9.15am in the open-air room at the rear of the library. Any changes to the above dates will be advised in the weekly newsletter.

Upcoming Fundraiser

Walk-a-thon:
To be held in conjunction with the Cross Country on 1st April

Sponsorship Forms will be distributed first week in March

Volunteer Text-for-Help

We are compiling a list of people who would like to be notified when volunteers are needed. It may be for an event, an afternoon or maybe just an hour or two. A text will go out asking for volunteer help and if it suits, you can text back your availability. If you are interested, please text your name to Lisa on 0414912217.
P&C News
To say it has been one of those weeks is a bit of an understatement. A note of thanks to the parents who have stepped in and helped due to some unforeseen events - Donna who opened the Tuckshop today, Angela and Tammy who opened the uniform shop on Friday. Your efforts are really appreciated and it is great see such wonderful Gilton parent team work.

Uniform Shop
Orders of homework satchels and library bags are pending, apologies for running out of stock. Size 8 dresses are still posing a problem; we need to source an alternative supplier without changing the fabric or design. We are working on a solution. Senior polo shirts have been ordered; again a supplier difficulty saw the need to source an alternative. The polo shirts will be delivered for collection by the students early next week.

Tuckshop
A freezer breakdown resulted in total stock loss on Monday morning; this did require changes to some children's orders as replacement stock had yet to arrive. Our thanks to Mandy who handled this situation with ease and grace. All food stocks are now replenished.

Kind regards, Narelle Reed P&C President Tel: 0403048920.

COMMUNITY NOTICES
WORLD TENNIS DAY Sunday 2 March, 8.00am-12 noon, Hinterland Tennis Club, free coaching, free court hire, BBQ, etc. Phone John on 0411 154 355.

NERANG EARLY CHILDHOOD World’s Greatest Shave Open Day – 8 March 10.00am-1.00pm to raise much needed funds and promote community awareness – information stalls, guest appearances, pace painting, etc.

TENNIS COACHING: Classes conducted on Thursday mornings from 8.00am. Cost is $17 per lesson, discounts for 3 or more children. All enquiries to Rowan Hollonds, Gold Coast Tennis Coaching, 0411 867 971, rowan@gctenniscoaching.com.au or www.gctenniscoaching.com.au