**NEWSLETTER**

GILSTON STATE SCHOOL

**FOR YOUR DIARY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>6 March</td>
<td>Year 2-6 Choir performing at Assembly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>12 March</td>
<td>Gilston Club Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>18 March</td>
<td>Behaviour Team Forum 8.15am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>28 March</td>
<td>Fun Run money &amp; forms due</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT**

Philanthropy (goodwill to fellow members of the human race; especially: active effort to promote human welfare) is a feature that has been promoted at Gilston for many years. Currently, our School Captains have focused attention on raising money for the farmers who are affected by drought. They have been collecting gold coin donations this week to donate to the “Buy a Bale” cause set up to assist farmers. If you have donated toward this worthwhile cause, thank you.

Programs of instruction at Gilston are enriched each year by the inclusion of incursion, excursions and camps. These activities require additional planning by teachers and administrative staff and in the case of camps, commitment by staff well beyond the school day. I wish to recognise this continued commitment by our staff and draw your attention to these additional offerings that include the Year 7 Canberra Trip, the Japan Tour, Leadership Days, Cultural activities, Science-based excursions.

The Behaviour Team would like to invite parents to a forum to learn about and discuss the projected refinements to the processes within our school. 18 March at 8:15am is the time that has been set aside for this forum. The team is keen to gain your feedback within what will be an informal session.

To ensure smooth and efficient practices are maintained during staff absences, we focus on developing lists of high quality replacement personnel. In the recent appointment of some contract teacher aides, the field of replacements is narrowing and I therefore invite expressions of interest for the position of relief teacher aide. Minimum requirement is a Certificate II in Education Support.

I have attached the following table to outline the current attendance levels for each year level to keep our trajectory towards our target of more the 95% in our sights.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Attendance Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>96.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>96.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>96.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>94.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>94.24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>95.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>93.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>94.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Illness can sometimes require a child to be excluded from the school for a period of time. This is the case with whooping cough (Pertussis), chicken pox, conjunctivitis and school sores. In consultation with officers at Community Health and the parents of students affected, we observe the exclusion directions. If you have any questions regarding these exclusions, please contact the office.

A casual position will be formed in the coming weeks for data entry. This position will be casual and the hours of work will vary from week to week. I am inviting interested, qualified people to lodge their resumes for consideration for this position.

If your child will be starting Prep at Gilston in 2015, ensure your details are lodged immediately. The process for next year begins before the end of this month. If you know of others interested in enrolling please advise them to lodge their details.

Maintenance in schools is constant requirement and from time to time we engage contractors to perform tasks. In the coming weeks we will have a range of projects being addressed. Please ensure you remind your children to stay clear of these project areas.

Stay safe and keep smiling.
Bruce

**DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S COMMENT**

Values in everyday life
Values are described as an individual’s basic standards and beliefs about what is good and bad, acceptable and not acceptable, moral and immoral. Values are the beliefs which cause us to do what we do. Values are assessed, developed and revised throughout our lives but many are relatively established by young adulthood. Everyone can lead. The ancient Greeks suggested that virtue (or values), when applied, would result in others living well. Such values are timeless, they are cross cultural and cross generational and at Gilston we believe and promote cultivating such values. They need to be cultivated, exercised and practised as a way of being so all will grow and prosper.

Tips for parents
I have identified eight tips which I believe will assist parents in helping their child to be a school leader.
Encourage them to be the best they can be.
Don’t talk to your child about leadership positions, talk about leadership opportunities.
Encourage your child to be in everything.
Encourage your child to solve problems.
Help your child with their presentation skills.
Encourage your child to do some type of community service, do it with them!
Encourage your child to ‘take responsibility.’
And most importantly, encourage them to do the right thing – especially when no one’s looking.

Stay safe and keep smiling.
Bruce
GRIP Leadership Day – Brisbane 2014
Our school Captains attended the GRIP leaders seminar in Brisbane last week. GRIP is an independent organisation that exists to train and develop leaders with a special focus on school students and is endorsed by educators, politicians and business people around Australia.

From the School Captains
Harley - Lead like a strawberry, not like a watermelon. A watermelon is green on the outside and a different colour on the inside. A watermelon leader says something but does another. A strawberry on the other hand is the same inside and out. A strawberry leader takes pride in what he says and tells the truth always.
Brooke - Be a schoolyard superhero by being kind and leading by example. You need to be considerate and a good friend and getting to know other students. Be persistent, confident, resilient, organised and get along with everyone.
Cody - The main thing I’d like to tell everyone is that anyone can be a great leader. All you need to show is Generosity, Respect, and Integrity and get to know People. Those four values are what go to form the acronym GRIP.
Chloe - We all know Mt Everest, the highest peak. I want to talk about achieving your goals; every goal you complete takes you a step higher. When you make it to the top, reach your goal, set another and another and so on. Well done!

Clean up Gilston School Day
On Friday this week our school captains and some ladies in year five will be going through the school at lunch times leading by example, picking up rubbish. They’ll be talking to other students about the impact of littering and by their actions encouraging others to take the lead in keeping our school clean. The concept was put forward by Eloise Bentley as part of her commitment to be a leader.

Lives of people all remind us we can make our lives sublime and, departing leave behind us footprints in the sands of time.
If we want to leave a legacy for the future we should know it’s about not compromising on effort and excellence. It’s all to do with how we live and the values we have and display in doing the deeds we do.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOSHUA DEY for being selected in the U12 South Coast Regional Cricket Team. Well done Josh. You will be playing test cricket in no time.

CHOIR PERFORMANCE
The Year 2-6 choir students will be performing at the assembly on Thursday 6 March (this week).

A very big thank you to all the families of Gilston who came along to support our BOOK FAIR last week. Thanks to your generosity our sales were $4,015. This means our school will be able to receive lots of new books for our school library. Also you children have some lovely new books to enjoy at home.

A special thank you to Tracey Zimmerman for all the extra work and time she gave to make our Book Fair such a success. Kathy Stone / Shelley Batson (Librarians)

The influx of parents who have provided contact details for offers of help with both the Gilston Club and the P & C is fantastic. For those parents who are interested but not sure who to contact please see the attached note. The first meeting for 2014 will be Monday 17 March, @.00pm. This will also be the AGM. All parents and carers are both invited and most welcome to attend. All executive positions become vacant, should you have an interest and not sure what is involved, please contact me to chat.

Uniform Shop - Just when I thought the challenge of the senior shirt was over, the production person has the misfortune of getting a stick through his eye, hence a further delay has been experienced. We are pressing for delivery this week. Of all years for it to be a challenge, it had to be when I also have a student waiting on one, rest assured we are doing all we can. A 2nd print run will be organised as soon as the current shirts are delivered. The new supplier of our dresses has been sourced and size 8 is on the way. House shirts are in stock. Homework satchels and library bags are arriving in 10 days.

The tuckshop menu is currently being reviewed and items will be added or removed. As always we are keen for your comments or suggestions, you could drop a note into the ladies at the tuckshop or email your suggestions to: gilstontuckshop@gmail.com. Of paramount importance is the compliance to the Smart Choices - Healthy Food and Drink Supply Strategy for Queensland Schools.

Have a super week, regards, Narelle Reed P & C President
Tel: 0403 045 920.

GILSTON CLUB NEWS
We are about to get our first fundraiser of 2014 up and running! Sponsorship Forms for the Fun Run will be coming home this week, along with a flyer on how it all works. There is also a flyer attached to this newsletter. One thing I must make sure everyone understands: No money or forms are to be handed into your child’s teacher. It MUST go into the box in the office. You have 3 weeks to get as many sponsors as you want, with forms and money due back on Friday 28 March. This is the Friday before the Cross Country, but as this is the last week of term, we need extra time to collate the forms and get the prizes ordered.

Don’t forget the next Gilston Club meeting (AGM) is next Wednesday 12 March @9.00am in the Library.
As always, should you have any Gilston Club enquiries, please call or text me on 0414912217. Lisa – Chairperson

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
Thursday 13 March – Help needed
Ice Blocks – Karen
Ice Blocks – Kamila Bestmann
Monday 17 March – Help needed
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Tuesday 18 March - Help needed
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Wednesday 19 March – Help needed
Ice Blocks – Donna Clark
Thursday 20 March - Help needed
Ice Blocks – Karen
Friday 7 March - Alex Wilson-McCarthy/Jenny Cooper
Ice Blocks – Kamila Bestmann

Thank you.
Mandy & Nicole

HELP WANTED
Are there any adults who play, coach or referee netball, and are free on Friday afternoons between 2.00–3.00pm to help our senior girls?

Please contact Mrs Donaldson or Mrs Dickmann.

P & C NEWS
FUN-RUN
– a fundraising initiative on behalf of the Gilston Club

We will be conducting a Fun Run as a major fundraiser for this term so we do ask for your support. The event will be held on 1st April in conjunction with the School Cross Country. Family support is most appreciated.

**Funds raised will provide additional resources for the students.**

Students have received a sponsorship form with a selection of over 70 prizes to choose from such as Sony, iPod Shuffles, Wahu, Razor, Nerf and more. If you have misplaced your sponsorship form, you can get another one from Admin.

We ask you to seek donations of $2, $4, $5 or $10 per sponsor. Students who raise as little as $10 will be entitled to a prize of their choice. The more donations received the better prizes you can choose. You can even mix and match your prizes.

Also on offer is a 2GB MP3 player for the highest fundraising student and a free surprise party for the highest fundraising class. Each student will also receive a Berri Quelch frozen juice stick on the day of the event.

**WIN A FAMILY HOLIDAY TO THE GOLD COAST OR HAMILTON ISLAND OR FIJI** – each student/family has the chance to win a family holiday simply by raising $10 or more. For more details on this promotion and how to enter, please view page three of the Sponsorship Form or go to www.myschoolathon.com.au

Once the fundraiser is complete, please cut out the ‘how to claim your prize section’ on the sponsorship form and return along with your monies (in a sealed envelope/bag) to Admin on or before 28 March. Please be sure to fill out your prize request. The individual prizes will be delivered in Term 2.

Happy fundraising, and we look forward to seeing you at our Cross Country to cheer on the students.

The Gilston Club
* Raising funds for our kids
Volunteering at Gilston - 2014

Your volunteer P&C committee coordinate a variety of initiatives, events and fund raising activities. Monies raised provide items not normally available to a state school including; air conditioned class rooms, extra home readers, general resources and equipment. Items funded by P&C over previous years include: the tennis court $40,000, the purchase and relocation of the music room $90,000, the playgrounds and climbing equipment $75,000, the extension of the tuckshop $36,000.

Uniform shop and tuckshop profits go back into the school. The prices are kept down as these entities are run and staffed volunteers. **Now more than ever additional volunteers are needed.** Thank you to those who recently offered assistance, there remains some areas where help would be magic.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Who to ask</th>
<th>What's needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuckshop</strong></td>
<td>Please see the ladies at the Tuckshop.</td>
<td>Regular help is often needed. Though options include 1 off help, once a week, month or quarterly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Uniform shop</strong></td>
<td>Contact Narelle on 0403046920</td>
<td>Assistance with a Friday once per month is currently sought.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Crossing Supervisor</strong></td>
<td>Contact Narelle on 0403046920</td>
<td>Tuesdays and Fridays we are short of a crossing supervisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working Bees, discos and special events</td>
<td>Keep an eye on the newsletter</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gilston Club</strong></td>
<td>Contact Lisa on 0414912217</td>
<td>BBQ assistance, mother’s/father’s day stalls, plus lots of other interesting things.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FETE Committee</strong></td>
<td>Contact Narelle on 0403046920</td>
<td>Expressions of interest for the fete committee - coordinating planning through to the fete on the day.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If you would like to be a part of the regular volunteer roster or have some questions please feel welcome to call and have a chat.

Warm regards,

Narelle Reed  
President - Gilston State School P&C Association  
Tel: 0403046920
TRIVIA NIGHT

Friday 21 March

Over 100 raffles to be won
Lucky door prize
Coin toss
And much more

Doors open at 6.30pm for a 7pm start

Tickets $10 each or $12 on the night
Tables of 8 can be booked now by calling
Tracey Spiers on 0412267263
Or book at Uniform Shop

STRICTLY NO BYO
Alcohol available on the night
BYO Nibbles

*This event is for over 18s ONLY*