Executive is: Narelle Reed, Christene Dukes, Mel Andrew and Trent Firmin. The meeting also served as a farewell for Ruth Emerson as both her daughters are now in high school. I extend special thanks to Ruth for her contributions to the P & C during her time at Gilston.

A key agenda item regarded the senior polo shirts and consequently, actions were proposed to address the shortcomings. Following clarification with the providers yesterday, a letter outlining the options will be distributed to parents of year 6 and 7 students today seeking feedback.

Either this week or next, your child is likely to announce that their regular teacher was not in the classroom for the day. These absences are part of a strategy to release all teachers on each year level to collaborate as they review term one units and plan for term two. The synergy of like-minded professionals working together will pay dividends for the learning of our students.

At Gilston protocols exist to direct practices to ensure efficiency and ensure smooth operations of the school. Today I draw your attention to the following protocol that outlines the expectations before and after school. As these are times when parents are responsible for children, I require your assistance to ensure the protocol is observed.

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 than 95% in our sights.

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### Attendance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>P</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>96.21</td>
<td>96.31</td>
<td>96.36</td>
<td>96.13</td>
<td>94.8</td>
<td>95.15</td>
<td>93.33</td>
<td>93.56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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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 than 95% in our sights.

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Stay safe and keep smiling

Bruce
To all students at Gilston, remember this, live this. The task in front of you is never greater than the strength inside you. Things don’t get easier; you just get stronger, better. If you accept your responsibilities and TRY!

**School Chess Program for Gilston State School 2014**

The Value of Chess in Education

Children need to be exposed to a myriad of opportunities in their young lives, whether these are artistic, sporting or literary pursuits, to enable them to discover what excites them and what can contribute to their life skills in an enjoyable way.

Chess can provide one of those opportunities. It has been found that girls and boys from all backgrounds, rich or poor, sporting or otherwise, including those with learning or physical disabilities choose to make chess one of their passions.

From the extensive research conducted all around the world, it has been found that chess helps children to ‘think smarter’. In a nutshell, this is why children like to learn chess:

- They realise it helps them to think smarter.
- In most cases, after only a short time, they will be able to beat their parents at chess.
- They will be able to compete in a school team in the interschools chess competitions.

Most kids find this to be an awesome experience.

The most important . . . because it’s fun! These classes will cater for all ages and abilities.

To enrol and pay for your child/ren please go to the secure web site [www.gardinerchess.com.au](http://www.gardinerchess.com.au) and click on the parents’ icon on the right-hand side of the page.

**Coaching details for Gilston State School**

Coaching day & time: Monday 3.10-4.10pm in the Library

**Cost per term:** $83.00 per student

**Start Date:** Term 2—Monday 28 April

Please list any medical, custodial or other factors of which we need to be aware when you are completing your child’s enrolment. Once you have enrolled and paid for your child/ren please send them along to the next scheduled lesson. Under no circumstances will the coaches be able to accept payment.

For families with three or more children attending and those starting part way through the term please contact the office directly to enrol on 07 5522 7221. This also applies to families who are unable to enrol via the web site. This chess program is designed to be ongoing from term to term. Payment for each term will be required at the beginning of each new term.

Unless there are extended absences, where special allowance may be made by written request, we will require the full fee to be paid. The fee is based on a full class of students, and no allowance can be made for occasional absences.

**P & C NEWS**

Following the AGM Monday, the P & C are pleased to welcome the new faces with the executive for 2014 being:

- President - Narelle Reed. Vice President - Christine Dukes. Secretary – Mel Andrews, Treasurer – Trent Firmin.

In recognising the new, we also thank those stepping down. Any honorary role requires time and commitment and, as with each and every year these people have freely given their time to support all our children.

Your continued support of the P & C is warmly welcomed, and you are encouraged to participate as the benefits to the children and school as a whole are significant.

Kind regards. Narelle Reed P&C President Tel: 0403046920.
GILSTON CLUB NEWS
A very big welcome to our newest committee members – Trudy Brown - Secretary and Brenda Fleming - Treasurer! A very big thank for taking up these positions at our AGM last week. Along with Mel Wright, our Vice-President, we now have a full committee once again!

Fun Run – two weeks left to get your neighbours, family and friends down as sponsors. See the attached page for the class prizes available for the most money raised! I have attached a flyer with further information from our meeting last week – so have a read. For all things Gilston Club, please call/text me on 0414912217 or our NEW email address: gilstonclub@gilstonss.eq.edu.au.

Have a great week. Lisa - Chairperson

ENROLLING FAMILIES
Thanks to all who attended our first Parent Information Session on Monday. Remember to put your child’s name on the waiting list so you are kept informed of what is happening with this project.

We were fortunate to have Karen Healy from Triple P Program speak to the group. She has offered to run the 5 week program on site next term on Thursdays 1.00-3.00pm (1 May – 22 May and 5 June). Gilston State School will cover all costs for this program so if you are interested in attending, please let the office know. More details below. Hope to see you there!

Triple P (Positive Parenting Program) can help improve children’s development and behaviour, as well as reduce stress for parents.

Interested parents are invited to attend the Group Triple P program for parents being run at our school in Term 2, 2014. The program will be conducted with a small group of parents. Parents will learn a range of strategies which can help with everyday challenges we all face in raising children.

Dates: 5 Sessions on Thursdays
1.00-3.00pm – 1 May, 8 May, 15 May, 22 May, (skip one week), 5 June.

Place: Resources Centre

If you are interested, please leave your name at the office or contact Karyn Healy on 0457 523 266 or email kheal12@eq.edu.au

CROSS COUNTRY
This year’s event will be held on Tuesday 1 April. Races begin at 9.15am and will proceed from youngest grades to oldest. All competitors will receive a house point when participating.

Any 10-13 year olds who place in the top 4 will represent Gilston State School at the District Cross country on Wednesday 21 May. We look forward to a fun and successful carnival

Cross Country Program
Prep
Year 1
Year 2
Year 3
Girls & Boys 9 Years (Only Year 4)
Girls & Boys (10 years)
Girls & Boys (11 years)
Girls & Boys (12 & 13 years)

Scott Stavar / PE Teacher

BANKING NEWS
Well, the new system is up and running with only a few small hiccups. If you have any queries about your child’s banking, please come to the window on Friday and see me or feel free to give me a call.

We are still in need of a volunteer to help on Fridays from 9.00am until around 11.00am. Give me a call if you are interested.

Happy Banking Mel Wright 0416 085 689

TUCKSHOP ROSTER
Thursday 20 March – Help needed
Ice Blocks – Karen
Friday 21 March – Alex McCarthy
Ice Blocks – Kamila Bestmann
Monday 24 March – Dannie Faulkner
Ice Blocks – Students Year 6/7
Tuesday 25 March – Help Needed
Ice Blocks – Students Year 6/7
Wednesday 26 March – Help Needed

We look forward to a fun and successful carnival

Wednesday 21 May.

Any 10-13 year olds who place in the top 4 will represent our school. For more details, please contact Lisa on the numbers on the Website.

Next week we will be trying some new menu items:
Tuna Pasta, Corn on the Cob, Mini Rice Bites and Cinnamon & Banana Pikelets.

Keep a look out on flexischools as these become available. All menu items can be changed and updated with a push of a button. Otherwise we will have a hard copy at the tuckshop for you to view.

Our preferred method of ordering is online at www.flexischools.com.au

Have a great week. Mandy & Nicole

COMMUNITY NOTICES
THE GILSTON STATE SCHOOL END OF TERM VACATION CARE PROGRAMME is on the Nerang PCYC Website. There will be a paper version of programme, booking sheet etc., by mid next week down at the hall. We are growing in numbers but have plenty of room for more children. Contact Lisa on the numbers on the Website.

NERANG STATE HIGH SCHOOL 2015 PARENT INFORMATION EVENING - Wednesday 14 May & Tuesday 16 September - 5:30-6:30pm - School Hall. All children welcome.

NERANG ROOSTERS JRFUC U10 Players needed to fill teams. If you would like to come and play rugby league for the Roosters, sign on Tues & Thurs from 4pm or call (07)55781864.

NERANG SOCCER CLUB – vacancies exist in the under 13 Div 2 team. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Phillipa on 0422 035 542.

MUDGEERABA SPARTANS JUNIOR AFL CLUB 2014 SEASON!!! We’re looking for interested boys and girls, aged 5 and up, to join the Club! Join us at training every Thursday, 4.00 to 5.00pm, Somerset College, Mudgeeraba on their AFL Field. For more details, please contact: Tim Searl – 0415 274 319 Tim.Searl@aflq.com.au

AMART SPORTS BURLEIGH will donate 5% of your purchases back to the school. For more details visit communitykickbacks.com.au

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
Purple Day (26 March) is a global event dedicated to raising epilepsy awareness. Purple Day was founded in 2008, by nine-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada. Motivated by her own struggles with epilepsy, Cassidy started Purple Day in an effort to get people talking about the condition and inform those with seizures that they are not alone. She named the day Purple Day after the internationally recognised colour for epilepsy, lavender.

NEXT THURSDAY 27 MARCH THE STUDENTS CAN WEAR PURPLE TO HELP RAISE FUNDS (VIA A GOLD COIN DONATION) AND RAISE AWARENESS FOR THIS GREAT CAUSE.

YOUR SUPPORT IN THIS WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED AS EPILEPSY IS THE MOST COMMON SERIOUS BRAIN DISORDER IN THE WORLD AND HAS NO CURE.
**Gilston Club**

**Class Prize for Fun Run**
The class who raises the most money get to have either Mr Langes and/or Mr Weatherburn participate in a PE class with them (not as the teacher but as a student) Class to be set by Mr Stavar. There will be one prize for the senior school and the junior school.

**Help Needed**
If anyone has a 4WD where a Waeco fridge/freezer can be plugged in - we need one for Cross Country day to keep the iceblocks frozen. Please contact Lisa via our new email address or text on 0414912217.

**Our next Gilston Club Meeting will be held on Wednesday 30 April at 9:30am at the Tallai Golf Club - all welcome!**

**Gilston Clubs new email address:**
giltonclub@giltonss.eq.edu.au