



GILSTON STATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Wow, wow, and wow! **What a wonderful Fair!** There has been such a wonderful response to this event from within and outside the school. I **congratulate** all involved, especially the **Fair Committee** who have applied their skills and expended their respective energies over the **past eighteen months** to deliver this **superb result**. The **community atmosphere** was fabulous and reflective of the spirit we continue to promote at Gilston. I know we will hear more about the success of our Fair for some time to come.

Despite the potential to be distracted by the excitement of the Fair, our **students remained focused** on the **core business of learning**. I continue to be impressed with the engagement in the classrooms and the abilities of our students under the expert tutelage of our teachers. At the week's end, all of us, students and staff alike, will certainly enjoy a well-deserved break.

The **QParents app** user count stands at 114 fully registered users and 119 nominated accounts awaiting parent action to complete the registration. The **convenience of making payments** and **reconciling absences** has been common advantages shared by the registered users.

Our **attendance statistics** have "lost their colour". To regain the "yellow" status the percentage must be between 94 and 95. To attain the "green" it must be 95% or better. It looks like Prep is in the box seat to start the colour run.

The **School Opinion Survey results for 2015** have been returned to us in a preliminary format. Once the final report is available I will share the data and how it compares to previous years and with other schools in Queensland.

The collection of **Tips for Parents** written by Michael Grose is stored on our website for your use. In my browsing this week I returned to a tip sheet entitled, "[Enjoy Being a Parent](#)" and offer it for your reflection. The full library of titles is available on our [website](#).

At the P & C meeting on Monday night the motion to **amend the uniform policy** to include **broad brim hats** only, was carried. **From the start of 2016, all students will be required to have a broad-brimmed hat.**

The decision to adopt **Student Resource Scheme** was also passed and will **replace the book packs** that have been part of our school for many years. This will be **more convenient for parents** and will **avoid wastage** that has been identified in our current arrangements.

FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday	18 September	Last day Term 3
Tuesday	6 October	First day Term 4
Tuesday	13 October	Prep Orientation Day
Friday	16 October	Book Character Parade
Monday	19 October	Pupil Free Day P & C Meeting 7.00pm
Friday	23 October	Family Arts Night

2015 Explicit Improvement Agenda

- Guided Reading
- Explicit Instruction – Short to long-term memory

Gilston Expectations

- Be a Learner
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful
- Be Safe

Current Attendance Levels

P	1	2	3	4	5	6
93.99	93.97	93.75	93.36	93.12	93.56	93

Our **Prep Orientation Day** will be held on **13 October**. This will be a chance for the girls and boys to be in the Prep rooms with their peers while parents and carers learn more about Gilston State School. I look forward to seeing all parents and children on this day.

In closing this week I wish you **quality time with your children** over the spring break and look forward to seeing you again for the final 10 weeks of the year. Remember the **first day back is Tuesday 6 October**.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

The Gilston Fair

What a wonderful turn-out, nothing but superlatives to describe the day! I could go on here to thank everyone involved planning the day (and I do most humbly), but more importantly for me, I'd like to thank you all for the opportunity to be there to experience it all. Absolutely fantastic in every way!

It is not how much we have, but how much we enjoy, that makes happiness.

NAIDOC Activities

Over the last three days we have had the privilege of having Mr Paul Craft teaching our students about local Indigenous culture. Through his lessons with the students, he imparts to them ways of doing and knowledge's that resonate within Indigenous culture, the culture of the school and that of Australian society. Thank you Paul.

Saver Plus Program for parents

Do you have a child at school or are you studying?

Would \$500 help with your education costs such as: computers, music, sport costs, books, uniforms or TAFE fees? See the attachment to the newsletter or come to the office to get a brochure on how to be a part of the program.

Saver Plus is a nationally recognised savings program developed by The Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ that helps people save for educational expenses and matches \$1 for every \$1 they save (up to \$500), to assist with education costs. To be eligible you need to have some paid work, be 18 years or older and have a Centrelink (health or pension) card.

Contact **Sylvia Constantin** on **0431 076 011** or **07 5644 9182**
sylvia.constantin@benevolent.org.au

Gilston State School Chess Program for Term Four

Children need to be exposed to a myriad of opportunities in their young lives. Chess can provide one of those opportunities. From the extensive research conducted all around the world, it has been found that chess helps children to 'think smarter'. **The Inter-school Competition for term 4 will be on Wednesday 28 October at Emmanuel College, Carrara.**

Coaching days & time: Mondays 3.10—4.10pm

Venue: School Library

Cost per term: \$86.00 per student

Start Date: Term 4— Monday 12 October—7 December 2015

If you already have an account, please log in using your username and password. Once your dashboard comes up click on student coaching, clear enrolment, then select the new term, add to cart and checkout.

To register and pay for your child/ren please go to the secure web site www.gardinerchess.com.au and click on the 'parents' icon. You then need to create a new account and follow the instructions.

P & C NEWS

Woolworths Earn & Learn is coming to a close. Thank you to all who have been supporting the school by bringing in your shopping stickers. All our rewards forms need to be finalised and will be posted to Woolworths for redemption this Friday 18 September. Please bring in any remaining stickers no later than Thursday 17 September so this can be organised.

Well the **Gilston Community Fair** has come and gone. What an amazing event it was! All who came along thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The P & C would like to thank the Fair Committee for all their hard work over the last fourteen months that made the Fair the success it was. We would also like to thank everyone who volunteered and assisted on the day to bring the Gilston community together.

The next **P & C Meeting** will be held Monday 19 October at 7.00pm. We invite all parents and carers to attend. The P & C voted regarding the **uniform cap** discussion, and a sun smart broad brim hat was successful. This motion will constitute an amendment to the current uniform policy. We are finalising the details regarding the uniform change and will keep you posted in the school newsletter.

School holidays are looming again and the P & C would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a safe and enjoyable break. We look forward to seeing you all back for term 4.

Uniform Shop - we have received a small number of size 8 and size 10 polo shirts. This will hopefully tie us over until our new order arrives next term. Uniform Shop opens only on Thursday afternoons 2.30–3.30pm. We continue to encourage you to use "FlexiSchools" for online ordering. It is easy, convenient and the uniforms are delivered to your children to take home. If you require assistance outside of our Uniform Shop hours, the lovely ladies in the Tuckshop will be happy to assist as they are able.

FAREWELL FROM YOUR FAIR COMMITTEE

What a wonderful Fair we had! The weather, the rides, the stalls, the food, the entertainment, the FUN – we had a fantastic time and we hope you all did too. Seeing so many smiles on children's faces made all the hard work worth it, as has the positive feedback we have received from students, parents and people in our local community.

We would like to thank everyone who helped, whether it was before, during or after the Fair, we could not have done it without you all. What a great team of teachers, staff and parents we have at our lovely school. Our school and most especially, our students will benefit greatly from your generosity and assistance.

There are still a few copies of our very special school Cookbook left if you missed out or need more. Available from Nicole at the Tuckshop for \$15 each, there is no limit on the number you can purchase anymore - they will make great Christmas presents! Any unclaimed Cent Auction prizes can also be claimed from the Tuckshop.

If you see them around the school, please help us to thank the members of our hardworking Fair Committee:- Trudy Brown, Sharon Collis, Nicole Meesen, Danielle Wibaux, Andrea Goldring, Jodie Brooks, Melanie Flessner, Brenda Fleming, Kari-Ann Elliot, Tamara Bell, and Donna Wilson Green. They have worked tirelessly on the Fair for the last 14 months and have done a marvellous job. Thank you so much ladies, you have done a brilliant job. Farewell until the next Fair!

ATHLETICS

Congratulations to these students who were selected to compete at the Regional Athletics Trials: Amelia Hughes 12yr Discus 5th, Lachlan Ross 12yr High Jump 11th and Harley Tait 11yr Discus. Well done athletes.

CHOIR NEWS FOR TERM 4

The choirs will recommence in week 2 of term 4. Seniors will rehearse on Mondays and juniors on Tuesdays at first break. The Surfers Paradise choir will be rehearsing on Wednesdays.

Both choirs will be performing at the Gilston Arts Night on Friday 23 October. The children have received a song sheet for memorising the words. If children would like to access the lyrics and music online, they can go to <http://education.qld.gov.au/learningplace/>. Here they will need their school log-in details and password, then the access code **S93127514**

Some senior choir students will be attending a performance at Surfers Paradise in week 4, on Thursday 29 October.

Our final performances for the year will be Christmas carols at a local retirement village.

GILSTON ARTS NIGHT

Gilston Arts Night is just one of the great events linking our school with the local community. On **Friday 23 October** (week 3 of Term 4), everyone is invited to view the amazing student art work.

We are also asking **YOU** to help with the judging by choosing a "People's Choice Award". When you come to view the artwork you will be given the opportunity to choose your favourite piece of artwork, and one lucky student will win this award.

For all those planning to bring in artwork from home, please collect the labels and waiver forms from the library and deliver your art to the library during week 1 Term 4.

GILSTON SCHOOL LEADERSHIP BADGE PRESENTATION

A leader is one who guides and inspires others. Leadership is more than meeting class and school expectations of good behavior, it is: helping your classmates, leading in a group and inspiring others, being involved in the school community.

It is exciting for the Year 5 students who are now breathing a sigh of relief after handing in their Gilston School Leadership Applications this week.

Leadership badges will be awarded on assembly in Term 4, Week 1 – 8 October. We are fortunate to have Senator Glenn Lazarus attending this assembly. Senator Lazarus has a common focus in recognizing leadership skills and has initiated a Queensland Young Leadership Recognition Program. He will be congratulating the students who have demonstrated, through their actions and applications, that they possess leadership qualities. Senator Lazarus will be awarding the Leadership badges.

Parents of those students receiving leadership badges will be notified by email during the holidays so that they have the opportunity to attend this assembly.

We are proud of the effort that so many of our students went to in submitting their leadership applications.

CHAPPY'S SPACE:

Breakfast Club is held Thursdays 8:15-8:45am. ALL ARE WELCOME. There is always room for new volunteers to come help out at Breakfast Club. Your help is so invaluable to keeping it up and running. If you can spare any time between 8.00-9.15am you are most welcome to join us. If you can't help but you are able to supply spreads, cordial (artificial colour and flavour free), margarine or other goodies such as plastic cups, napkins - every little bit helps. If you work for a business who could donate supplies to our breakfast club please contact me. samanthab@chappy.org.au Thank you so much to Karen and Tammy, without you there would be no breaky club. Thank you to Nerang Bakery in Nerang Mall who supply our bread and Ozharvest who supplies us fruit when it's available.

Prayer For Our Families: If there are any families in our

community who wish to send prayer requests for any situation to our School Chaplain, no need to go into detail, you can access this community service via chappy's email samanthab@chappy.org.au

Food Parcels For Emergency Food Relief - Newlife Uniting Church Robina 55789322, Mosaic Family Baptist Church 07 5525 2477.

Saturday Night Kids Club- 'Kids Roc' 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month put on by United City Church held in William Duncan School Hall. Enquiries -Sue 0421664466 www.kidsroc.com.au

You can access the Chaplaincy service at Gilston via Mr Weatherburn or by contacting Chappy Sami at samanthab@chappy.org.au. All referrals however, need to go through our admin SNaC committee as per Mr Weatherburn. You can start this process through your class teacher.

Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800, Beyond Blue 1300 224 636, Lifeline 131 114, Cancer Council support line 131 120, Commonwealth Carelink Centre 1800 0520222, Juice 107.3, Careline 55 283 555.

We have had a few weeks of some very awful circumstances and we can't ignore that these constant media reports will be affecting our children.

Appropriate support and counselling will help children to grow up learning how to relate to others with trust and respect.

QUOTE: A smile is the quickest way to change your looks.

TUCKSHOP REPORT

Thursday 17 September – Tracey Zimmerman

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Friday 18 September – Kristy Griffin / Help needed

Ice Blocks – Help needed

TERM 4

Monday 5 October – Public Holiday

Tuesday 6 October – Dorothy Brazal

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Wednesday 7 October - Dorothy Brazal / Help needed

Ice Blocks – Cath Sleep

Thursday 8 October - Tracey Zimmerman

Ice Blocks – Karen Crabb

Friday 9 October – Teresa Evans / Sally McRobert

Ice Blocks – Help needed

A massive **THANK YOU** to all the volunteers who assisted me last Thursday and Friday preparing for the "Fair Cake Stall – Danielle Graham, Dorothy Brazal, Kerrie Harper, Helen Anderson, Mel Flessler, Emma Vanstone, Bec Moore, Tracey Zimmerman, Tam Bowden, Renee Templer, Kelly Gibson, Sally McRobert, Mel Wright and Karen Bowden. Thank you so much for all your efforts.

Have you got a **birthday party** coming up and need **party bags**? We have 50 freddo show bags (9 chocolate freedos and a freddo pen) left over from the fair. If you would like to purchase these at \$3.00 each, come and see Nicole at the tuckshop.

Also we have boxes of various **soft drinks** left over at cheap prices. Please see Nicole at the tuckshop for more details. First in, best dressed.

Have a great week. Nicole Meesen – Tuckshop Convenor

COMMUNITY NOTICE

JUMP? SWIM SCHOOL NERANG –Opening soon – 19a/74 Beaudesert-Nerang Road, Nerang. nerang@jumpswimschools.com.au – 0413 079 359. 3 months to 8+ years.

