Principal's Report

Happy belated Australia Day! I trust you were able to take advantage of the timing of the public holiday this year to spend some final family time together before the start of the school year. I know that our staff have been very industrious in their preparation for today and I commend them for their dedication and application to the task of providing a high-class learning environment.

This may be the first time that I have started a school year on a Wednesday. Three days to work before a weekend – a rather civilised pattern to which I could become accustomed. It may be a bonus for students and staff alike as they make the transition back into the world of formal learning. I welcome everyone to the 2016 school year and extend a special welcome to the "new" students at Gilston whether they are starting in Prep or another year level. I know they and their families will be welcomed into our community.

2015 was a very successful year for us. Results improved significantly in a range of areas and there were highlights both within and outside the classroom. These results were the product of the unrelenting focus of our staff to applying strategies that work best. Our students, your children, developed additional stamina in the learning process and subsequently were able to achieve more than ever before. This year we will again have a very clear focus on specific strategies to ensure we gain most from our collective efforts. Our Explicit Improvement Agenda for 2016 is listed on the left of this newsletter and will remain there as a reminder of our commitment to improvement. Also on the left margin we will record the weekly statistics for attendance with the aim of meeting the 95% attendance target. Make sure you play your part by ensuring that your child is at school for every day they are fit to do so.

As you gathered with friends and acquaintances this morning to catch up on the highlights of your time away from school, you may have noticed some new faces among our teaching staff. Throughout last week these people were learning alongside our existing staff and gaining a perspective on how we do the business of teaching and learning at Gilston. I am confident that these new teachers will add further value to the expertise and energy on our site: Nesrin Aydogar (Prep), Lydia McNeill (Yr 1), Cherrie McKenna (Yr 4), Andrea Barr-Hamilton (Yr 4), Natasha

### FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>29 January</td>
<td>Last day payment $100 Student Resource Scheme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday to Friday</td>
<td>14 March 18 March</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons Years 1, 2 &amp; 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>14 March</td>
<td>Gala Sports Day Year 5 &amp; 6</td>
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**2016 Explicit Improvement Agenda**
- Mastery of maths concepts – efficiency through CMC program
- Embedding scripted guided reading and monitoring of reading behaviours
- Embedding consolidation instruction through slides

**Gilston Expectations**
- Be a Learner
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful
- Be Safe

**Current Attendance Levels**

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<th>P</th>
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<th>4</th>
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Whether you will be dropping challenges that will result in a deemed relevant by individual schools. In our encourage programs have been. I need limits during school times.

In addition to these permanent hopefully all parents are stated.

I look forward to meeting and catching up with everyone and to make positive healthy choices in life.

Life Education Visit, 27 January to 9 February 2016
From tomorrow Life Education Australia will be in our school. The Life Education Primary School Program has been successfully supporting primary school drug and health education since 1979.

Life Education’s comprehensive programs have been specifically designed to assist schools achieve the outcomes of the National Curriculum. Activities are based on the Health and Physical Education outcomes. They are also designed to be integrated into additional curriculum areas, as deemed relevant by individual schools. In our case it will align with our social emotional well-being program. Primary schools play a vital role in preparing children for life and in shaping their journey through school. Research shows that the earlier we encourage children to develop positive self-image, self-esteem and a feeling of uniqueness, the better equipped they are to

Life Education assists students to:
- Acquire age appropriate knowledge to support informed health choices
- Develop and practice skills and strategies to act upon individual decisions
- Recognise the values and attitudes that may influence lifestyle choices and behaviours.

BACK TO SCHOOL ROAD SAFETY MESSAGE
The Gold Coast Road Policing Unit are seeking your help. Safety around schools is paramount and all drivers have a responsibility to observe the rules. The police understand that this time of year sees new school children arriving at most schools and this is often an exciting and stressful time for both parents and students. They remind all motorists that by not adhering to the road rules you jeopardise the safety of your own children and those from other families.

The following outlines the penalties for breaches of rules:

1. Speed Limits - By now hopefully all parents are aware of the 40km/h speed limits during school times. Fines for exceeding the speed limit are as follows:
   - Exceed speed limit in school zone by less than 13km/h $157 1 Point
   - at least 13km/h but not more than 20km/h $235 3 Points
   - more than 20km/h but not more than 30km/h $392 4 Points
   - more than 30km/h but not more than 40km/h $549 6 Points
   - more than 40km/h $1,099 8 Points

2. Illegal parking - The most common parking complaints and offences:
   - Stop on children’s crossing $47
   - Stop within 20m before or 10m after children’s crossing $47
   - Stop contrary to ‘NO STOPPING’ sign $47
   - Stop contrary to ‘NO PARKING’ sign $47
   - Stop contrary to continuous yellow edge line $47
   - Stop unauthorised vehicle in bus zone $47
   - Double park $47
   - Stop across footpath $47
   - Stop across driveway $47

3. Crossing
   - Fail to stop at children’s crossing when ‘STOP’ sign displayed $353 3 Points

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4. **General Road Rules**

- Driver fail to wear seatbelt $353 – 3 Points
- Driver drive with unrestrained passenger 16 years old or older $353 - 3 Points
- Drive motor vehicle while passenger < 6 mths old but < 4 yrs old unrestrained $353 - 3 Points
- Drive motor vehicle while passenger at least 6 yrs old but < 7 yrs old unrestrained $353 - 3 Points
- Drive motor vehicle with more than one row of seats while passenger < 4 yrs old in front row unrestrained $353 - 3 Points
- Drive motor vehicle with more than one row of seats while passenger aged 4 years to < 7 yrs in front row and other seats not occupied by children aged < 7yrs $353 - 3 Points
- Drive motor vehicle while passenger at least 7 yrs but < 16 yrs unrestrained $353 - 3 Points
- Drive vehicle with passenger at least 7 yrs but < 16 yrs in same seat position as another passenger $353 - 3 Points
- Driver use hand-held mobile phone $353 - 3 Points

5. **For those that have students driving to school**

- P1 type holder fail to display legible red plate at rear of motorbike $188 - 2 Points
- P1 type holder fail to display legible red plates at front and rear of car $188 - 2 Points

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**TUCKSHOP REPORT**

**Thursday 28 January** – Tracey Zimmerman/Help needed
- Ice Blocks – Help needed

**Friday 29 January** – Urgent help needed
- Ice Blocks – Help needed

**Monday 1 February** – Beth Sonter
- Ice Blocks – Help needed

**Tuesday 2 February** – Help needed
- Ice Blocks – Help needed

**Wednesday 3 February** – Help needed
- Ice Blocks – Help needed

**Thursday 4 February** – Help needed
- Ice Blocks – Help needed

**Friday 5 February** – Help needed
- Ice Blocks - Help needed

We would like to welcome everyone back and also a warm welcome to our new families. Our Tuckshop is so loved by students and staff, we are in need of more volunteers to help our tuckshop run smoothly. If you are able to volunteer a couple of hours, weekly or monthly we would love to hear from you, your time would be greatly appreciated. Come up and see Nicole, Mel or Karen, or email the tuckshop at gilston.tuckshop@gmail.com.

On Monday 1 February we will be introducing our new tuckshop menu for 2016. New menus will be given to students on Friday to bring home. Our tuckshop has a new name, “Gilston Gourmet”.

Looking forward to seeing some new and familiar faces in the tuckshop this year.

Nicole Meesen / Tuckshop Convenor

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**COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**TENNIS AUSTRALIA ENDORSED PROGRAM** for primary students which uses specially designed court sizes & equipment to help develop skills for life, making it A LOT OF FUN. Lessons start Tuesday 2 February before school and will run every Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday from 7:00 - 8:45am at: Gilston Primary School Tennis Court. $84 for 7 weeks ($12 per lesson). Look forward to seeing you on the court. Details & bookings contact Jonathon 0488 696 939.

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