



GILSTON STATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



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Edition: 04/2016

Date: 17 February 2016

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

I am pleased to report that there were some **new members at the P & C meeting on Monday night**. They were able to contribute to discussion and debate on a range of topics including swimming carnival operation procedures, discos, fund raising, financial management and the role of sub committees. We are certainly blessed to have the support of the members of this group and I am confident that we will again have a successful year in the support of students at Gilston. Our next meeting is 21 March.

Are you keen to engage in a little exercise while helping to beautify the school gardens? Join us on **Sunday 13 March from 8.00am** as we spread mulch throughout the school gardens. If you are new to our school, please come along and meet other parents in an atmosphere of cooperation and community-mindedness. We usually work for a few hours before enjoying a cold drink and a BBQ. While it may sound like hard work, we are blessed to have Damon and his machinery on hand again to help load trailers to make our task considerably easier.

David Gay's retirement from Gilston has created an opportunity for **Kathlyn Tedder** to share her skills. Kathlyn is an experienced teacher and is excited about joining our teaching team **next Monday**. I am confident she will be afforded a warm Gilston welcome and with the support of the rest of our team, will make a smooth transition into our school.

It is apparent that our **youngest students are leading the way in attendance data this year**. Well done Prep parents! **Every day counts when it comes to learning**. Please continue to ensure children are at school on every day they are fit to do so.

The count of students whose parents are using **QParents app** is growing week-by-week and now stands at **164**. Welcome to our newest members. In case you have lost the details, invitations will be re-sent to those of you who nominated last year and have not yet completed the registration. If you do have any difficulties registering for the app please contact Roz in the office on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday for assistance as she is a firsthand user of the tool.

Thank you for your prompt payment of the **Student Resource Scheme**. The second payment of \$60, while not due until the

FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday	26 February	Last day for payment Japanese cooking Yr 3-6
Friday	4 March	Last day for payment Swimming Lessons Years 1, 2 & 4
Tuesday	8 March	Enrolling Families Information Session for 2017 Prep enrolments
Sunday	13 March	Working Bee
Monday to Friday	14 March - 18 March	Swimming Lessons Years 1, 2 & 4
Sunday	19 March	Local Government Election
Monday	21 March	Gala Sports Day Year 5 & 6 P & C AGM & General Meeting 7.00pm

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

P	1	2	3	4	5	6
98.66	97.02	97.42	97.71	94.61	96.62	97.71

end of Term 2, can be paid in instalments using the QParents app. For those who have overlooked the initial payment, reminders will be sent home shortly for immediate settlement.

The **first Enrolling Families information session for Prep enrolments for 2017 will be held on 8 March**. It is imperative that anyone interested in enrolling children in Prep in 2017 has lodged contact details with us as Jolie will be using these details to provide details of the session and subsequent elements of the program. If you know of someone whose child is expected to start next year remind them to contact the office. This applies to those both inside and outside the catchment zone.

In recent weeks several schools have been targeted with what have turned out to be **hoax bomb and violence threats**. Each of these has been managed according to the policies in schools and in cooperation with emergency services. At Gilston we have rehearsed actions that would be taken should a threat be made to our safety. Our staff in the office is aware of the procedures to be followed in the event of such a call and I am confident that if, or when, a call is received we will be able to respond swiftly and confidently.

Due to staff commitments off campus this Friday afternoon, the school office will be **shut at 3:30pm**. Please ensure your children are collected prior to this time.
Stay safe and keep smiling.
Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT Gilston Gourmet

The Gilston Gourmet now has a Five Star Michelin rating by the Queensland Association of School Tuckshops. This means Nicole and the ladies who help out week after week are providing great quality food items to the students and staff at Gilston State School. On behalf of everyone, thank you very much ladies for your dedication and efforts. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful team you would be very welcome.

100% Attendance Goal

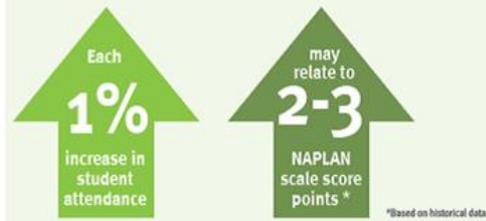
Ensuring your child is at school on time is another priority for 2016. Students arriving late or leaving early on a regular basis are at risk of having this impact on learning in much the same way as absenteeism does. The target for our Student Attendance Rate continues to be greater than 95%. To turn high potential into high performance students need to be at school learning for as close to 100% of the time as possible.

One of our goals is to teach all children to read by the end of the third year of schooling, which is Year 2. We have roughly 580 days to achieve our goal. Catching up if you are behind by the end of Year 2 has a low probability of occurring without intensive remedial intervention.

The start of the year sees Gilston with an attendance rate of 97%, despite a fairly consistent number of students absent to date. The current rate for the whole school means that overall, parents are doing a good job of managing attendance at school. To help parents with letting the school know you can lodge the absences (and reason), on the QParents App.

On the official school rolls, we currently have 3% **unexplained absences for all students** (an unexplained absence is when a student is away and **no notification** is given, or parents are aware the child is away and **no reason** is given for the absence). Unfortunately, we need to be vigilant to reaching our target for 2016 of >95%.

ATTEND ALL DAY, EVERY DAY



What parents can do



Get involved in your child's school

P & C NEWS

Gilston Club 2016

Following discussions at Monday night's P&C meeting, the P&C will be looking at temporarily suspending the operation of the Gilston Club for 2016 at this year's AGM. There is currently not enough volunteer support to justify running a separate committee at this time.

We would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers who have given their time to make the Gilston Club what it is. Your tireless efforts often go unnoticed but the funds you raise for our school are appreciated by all.

We would like to assure all parents and students that all the fundraising activities (including Mothers and Fathers day stalls) usually organised by the Gilston Club will continue. **HELPERS ALWAYS NEEDED!!!** Please feel free to put your hand up to help with any of the fundraising events that come up during the year, many hands make light work, and all monies raised benefit our school and students.

The P & C will revisit this decision if enough support is forthcoming to enable the Gilston Club to run after its next meeting. The date of the Gilston Club Meeting will be in the newsletter shortly.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me via the P&C email: pandc@gilstonss.eq.edu.au

Tam Bell

Gilston State School P&C Secretary

SPORT NEWS – Year 2 student Angel Smith has been awarded 'student of the year' at the Combined Martial Arts Academy. She is the youngest ever recipient of this award. Year 6 student Emily has been selected in the Oceanic District U11 Netball Team. Congratulations to both girls.
Scott Stavar / HPE Gilston SS

ENROLLING FAMILIES

On Tuesday 8 March we will be holding our first Parent Information Session for families enrolling their child/children in Prep for 2017. The session will cover a number of topics including:

- Pre-Prep classes
- Screening assessments
- Interviews
- An explanation of the Enrolment Management Plan (EMP)
- Visits from the Community Health Nurse and Oral Health
- Strategies for how to best to prepare for Prep

If you have a child beginning Prep in 2017, and have not already expressed an interest, please contact the office to do so.

Jolie Angus / STLAN / Enrolling Families

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Club Issue 1 orders have now closed. The orders will be arriving at school in the next 7-10 working days.

Library – please make sure your child returns their library book each week and brings a library bag for borrowing.

Thank you.

Kathy Stone / Librarian

The **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS** will be held on **19 March** and Gilston State School will again be a polling booth.

TUCKSHOP REPORT

Thursday 18 February – Tracey Zimmerman

Ice Blocks – Monica Whetter

Friday 19 February – Kristy Griffin / Tammy Schenau

Ice Blocks - Help needed

Monday 22 February – Lydia Moss / Paula Black

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Tuesday 23 February – Mel Harrison / Kerrie Bray

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Wednesday 24 February – Loretta Wood / Beth Sonter

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Thursday 25 February – Tracey Zimmerman / help needed

Ice Blocks – Monica Whetter

Friday 26 February – **Help needed please**

Ice Blocks – Help needed

I would like to thank Teresa Evans (Mum of Kai & Aidan) for all her time, support and effort over the past couple of years. Teresa has volunteered her time every 2nd Friday to help in the tuckshop. We wish you all the best for your new adventure.

Reminder that you can order cupcakes if your child is having a birthday and you have no time to bake. Please come and see Nicole to place an order. The cost is \$25 for a class set of iced cupcakes. I need at least 1 weeks' notice, and payment is required 1 week prior.

Have a great week;

Nicole Meesen- Tuckshop Convenor

gilstontuckshop@gmail.com

COMMUNITY NOTICES

NERANG BULLS RUGBY UNION SIGN ON DAY 13 February 10.00am-2.00pm, Glennon Park, Pappas Way, Carrara. Contact Mark Muir on 0457 891 276 or kylie.tanswell@gmail.com

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 have started 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.

NERANG SOCCER CLUB Registrations are now open for the 2016 Season. Training has commenced but it isn't too late to join! 3-5yo Squirts Program, U6-U11 Miniros, U12 – U16 Competition Age. For more information see our website www.nerangsoccerclub.com or contact Mel on 0418 770 915

MUDGEERABA JAFAC NAB AFL AUSKICK CENTRE - Sign on & 1st Session Friday 12 February, 4:30pm to 5:30pm, Salk Oval, Thrower Drive, Palm Beach, Cost: \$70. For more information contact: Eunice on 0438 172 716 or visit www.aflauskick.com.au. Register online & pay online at www.aflauskick.com.au . **Please print your receipt and bring to the first session.**

MUDGEERABA HOCKEY CLUB INVITES YOU TO COME AND TRY HOCKEY - Fun games, All equipment supplied. Thursday 18 & 25 February, 5.30-6.30pm. Keith Hunt Park, Musgrave Ave, Labrador.

Contact info@mudgeehockey.com, www.mudgeehockey.com

