



GILSTON STATE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Supermodels abound at Gilston. Among the students, staff and parents wonderful modelling occurs on a daily basis. Whether it is the respect that is shown by how people interact, the courtesy shown by drivers in the carpark or the how parents walk their children across the crossing each morning and afternoon. **Each example is being watched by hundreds of pairs of eyes.** Thank you for exhibiting the behaviours that we expect at Gilston and for being a supermodel.

Gilston Gourmet, the 5-star tuckshop at Gilston is about to become even more heathy to comply with the new government regulations. Already Nicole and the team have transformed the Gilston Gourmet to include a vast array of **home-made items and healthy choices.** The change has been greeted with significant growth in sales and the feedback about the menu is very positive. I **congratulate the team** for the transformation aware of the hard work that is required to provide a high-quality menu.

Getting your child to school on time can require some serious planning for some families. I commend those of you who have adopted strategies to have your child to school on time every day. If you are experiencing challenges in this regard, I offer the [hints included from Michael Grose](#) about routines on our website.

The first "Enrolling Families" information session will be held on 8 March. This opportunity to learn what is planned between now and the start of school for Prep next year is most valuable for parents. This program comes highly-recommended by parents who have engaged in this program in previous years as integral to the smooth transition their children experienced on entry to school.

Next week we will welcome **Brian Ragh our Assistant Regional Director** to our school. During his visit Brian will speak to groups of staff and will even spend some time teaching in a couple of classrooms. The intent of his visit is to ascertain the impact of the instruction at Gilston and in particular the progress of the students' reading.

QParents App registrations count this week is 173 fully registered users. Year two leads the way with 35 registrations. I am confident that with the recent distribution of invitations to

FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday	25 February	Last day payment Year 6 Leadership Day
Friday	26 February	Last day for payment Japanese cooking Yr 3-6
Tuesday	1 March	Year 6 Leadership day
Friday	4 March	Last day for payment Swimming Lessons Years 1, 2 & 4
Tuesday	8 March	Enrolling Families Information Session for 2017 Prep enrolments
Wednesday	9 March	Last day for Book Club Issue 2 orders
Sunday	13 March	Working Bee
Monday to Friday	14 March - 18 March	Swimming Lessons Years 1, 2 & 4
Saturday	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
97.8	96.93	97.36	97.32	94.63	95.63	96.56

Prep parents we make the 200 mark before the end of the term.

I have been made aware that despite the **signage on the vehicle access gates**, unauthorised vehicles are entering the school grounds. The safety breach that this constitutes is significant and consequently advice has been sought regarding actions that can be taken to eliminate this dangerous behaviour. It is clear from the advice that these drivers are deemed to be trespassing on the grounds and that prosecution is the resultant action. I regret that this measure has to be introduced however for the safety and smooth operation of our school we will seek external assistance. Please be aware that **if you choose to enter the school grounds in a vehicle that does not display an approved permit, your vehicle details will be recorded and forwarded to the police for investigation and prosecution.**

Working bees are not only a chance to transform our gardens rapidly; they provide a **community activity for adults and students alike**. The simple action of contributing to the beautification of the grounds sends a clear message to your children about the pride you have in the facility and the value you have in your child's school. If time permits, please join us on 13 March from 8.00am to make a difference and share a few laughs. Bring along some gloves, a barrow, rake and shovel if you have them. For the veterans, your trailers and tray-back utes will again be appreciated.

On the topic of helping out, the annual Prep shed clean out is occurring on Monday 29 February from 9.00-11.00am. Shirley would love to hear from you if you can help with this task.

In closing I remind all parents that the **access to the playgrounds before school is conditional** on a parent being present. If students access these spaces without parent supervision the access arrangements will have to be removed. Stay safe and keep smiling.
Bruce

MUSIC NEWS

Due to the **'sugoi'** curriculum partnership between Music and Languages, Year 1 and 2 students are exploring Japanese language within their weekly Music lessons. All Year 1 and 2 students who currently have 2 Music lessons per week are learning a number of songs and rhymes which have been selected to expose the students to Japanese counting, naming parts of the body and story-telling with actions. The musical elements of the songs reinforce our current work with beat, rhythm and melody. Stay tuned for our up-coming assembly performances. Sugoi = Awesome!

The **Choirs** are well underway with rehearsals. Junior choir is on Tuesdays at 1st break and senior choir on Thursdays at 1st break. New members are still welcome to join. The eisteddfod choir auditions will begin next week. Students should see Mrs Miller to sign up for an audition time.

SPORT NEWS

Last week, 12 of our best swimmers competed at the Oceanic District Swimming Carnival. They all swam well with many recording personal best times. Tom Van Loon, Soren Zwolsman and Kayley Moore will now compete at the Regional Carnival. Good luck swimmers.

With the help of Coach Jono our school tennis tournament will begin next week. Students in years 5 and 6 are invited to play in a knockout doubles tournament during lunch times. The winners' names will be engraved on the school tennis shield. Good luck to all players.
Scott Stavar

LIBRARY NEWS

Book Club Issue 1 orders are being delivered this week and should arrive home with your child shortly.

Book Club Issue 2 is coming home. Please remember that no money comes to the school. All orders are completed on-line at scholastic.com.au/LOOP. Orders for Issue 2 are due in by Wednesday 9 March.

SUGOI TAIKO

Yesterday the Year 3-6 students were treated to an **interactive performance by the UQ Taiko** group. Students learned a simple Taiko song and had the opportunity to try out the Chuudaiko drums the group was playing on. Our own **Sugoi Taiko** group also enjoyed a **private workshop** throughout the afternoon, learning a new song for our repertoire and working with the inclusion of other Japanese instruments to turn a simple song into a performance. Our Languages Innovation Grant has funded the performance and workshop, furthering our cultural learning and extending our fledgling **Sugoi partnership** activities.

Kylie Doonican

JAPANESE NEWS

Big congratulations to a group of Year 6 girls who worked diligently on their entry for the Can Film Competition last year and early this year. Ella, Emily, Jazmin, Mady, Saskia and Tia made a fantastic, original film in Japanese and have been commended for their high standard of pronunciation and language skill! They have also learned some valuable skills in movie making and special effects which they can carry forward for future projects. Sugoi effort girls!!!

Kylie Doonican

TUCKSHOP REPORT

Thursday 25 February – Help needed

Ice Blocks – Monica Whetter

Friday 26 February – Paula Black/Nelly Armstrong/Kerrie Bray

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Monday 29 February – Lydia Moss / Paula Black

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Tuesday 1 March – Mel Harrison

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Wednesday 2 March – Beth Sonter / Loretta Wood

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Thursday 3 March – Tracey Zimmerman

Ice Blocks – Monica Whetter

Friday 4 March – Kristy Griffin / Tammy S

Ice Blocks - Help needed

I am looking for some new recipes, low fat, low sugar and nut free cookies and slice recipes for our children. If you have one that maybe suitable please drop them into the tuckshop or email these to gilstontuckshop@gmail.com

Have a great week....

Nicole Meesen- Tuckshop Convenor



