PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Gilston students are indeed talented in many ways. Last Friday evening the artistic talents on display were remarkable and worthy of the acclaim received. I congratulate all students for their artistic expression and commend those who were recognised by the judges as placegetters in the competition. I wish also to draw attention to the performances by the Taiko drummers, the choir, the bands and the soloists who provided entertainment on the night. All bodes well for these students when the time comes to make the transition to high school. The winners from the evening will be presented again on assembly this Thursday along with the People’s Choice Award.

In recognising the talents of the students I am compelled to highlight the inputs from the staff who supported these girls and boys. Our classroom teachers coached their students to present their best 2D and 3D works, Steve prepared the bands, Alison the choir and Kylie and Alison the Taiko drummers. Behind the scenes a committee of staff members ensured that the celebration of talent came together. I thank each member of staff for their respective contribution.

On the topic of making things happen for students, I recognise that we have 5 teachers away from their families at the Year 4 camp. Camping with large groups of students takes energy and commitment and I know each will sleep well on their return.

It has been a while since I updated you on Mrs Barr-Hamilton’s progress as she rehabilitates from her horse incident. Andrea remains keen to be back however she has been directed to complete an extensive rehabilitation plan first. It is unlikely Andrea will return to her capacity as classroom teacher prior to the end of this year. I remain hopeful she may join us in a part time role of some description once she has medical clearance.

All forms for the Student Resource Scheme (SRS) must be returned to the office by Friday 4 November. We will act on the details you provide to ensure all students have the requisites for school next year. Your immediate attention to this will assist us in our organisation.

Will your child be starting Prep in 2018? Do you want them to attend Gilston? If so, please call the ladies in the office to ensure we know about your intention.

Current Attendance Levels

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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

FOR YOUR DIARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Participation Agreement Forms due at school office</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>4 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday to Friday</td>
<td>21 November, 25 November</td>
<td>Swimming Lessons Prep, Year 3, Year 5</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>25 November</td>
<td>Volunteer BBQ 5.00-7.00pm</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>1 December</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival Year 4-6</td>
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Date: 26 October, 2016
Gilston continues to be the beneficiary of the generosity of numerous volunteers. The range of roles filled by volunteers are many and varied and each year we recognise them by hosting a “thank you” BBQ. Based on last year’s success, the 2016 event will be held on 25 November from 5.00-7.00pm. Invitations will be distributed shortly from numerous sources to ensure we miss no volunteer.

I read an article yesterday penned by Darren Stevenson the Managing Director of Extend that reminded me of my impact on those around me. Entitled, “The Emotional Economy”, the piece contains some ideas that can help each of us. If you are interested in learning more about how you can coach your children in this regard, visit the link above.

Remember it is World Teacher’s Day this Friday.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICER: MICHELLE DAVIES

Providers To Support Mental Health
As I wrote last week, our Mental health is an essential part of our overall health. It directly impacts our physical health and our ability to cope on a daily basis. It is strongly related to our general demeanour and affects our behaviour, particularly our social behaviour and our relationships with others. It is very important that we monitor our own Mental Health regularly and seek help if we need it. There are some things we just can’t do by ourselves.

If you need further information or would like to find out more about the services that are available see your Doctor or the Guidance Officer at the school.

Attached is a list of some of the services everyone can access.

GMG SPORTS TRAINING
This Active and Healthy Afterschool Fitness Program has started once again. Gilston students of all ages and fitness levels are invited to participate each Thursday afternoon on the oval from 3:30-4:15pm. There is no cost involved and is lots of fun.

Scott Stavar / HPE

GILSTON GOURMET
Thursday 27 October - Tracey Zimmerman
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Friday 28 October – Jenny Toohey / Help needed
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Monday 31 October – Paula Black / Jenny Toohey
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Tuesday 1 November – Mel Harrison/ Amelia Edwards
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Wednesday 2 November – Jenny Toohey
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Thursday 3 November – Tracey Zimmerman
Ice Blocks – Help needed
Friday 4 November – Help needed
Ice Blocks – Help needed

2

COMMUNITY NOTICES
MERRIMAC SHS ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING for students entering Year 7 in 2017 will be held Wednesday, 9 November at 6.30pm in the Library.