PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Persistence, resilience, organisation, getting along and confidence. These are the elements within the You Can Do It! Program that we promote at Gilston. These same attributes have been modelled exquisitely by Nicole and her team in the Gilston Gourmet resulting in recognition at the Queensland Association of School Tuckshops Gala Awards last Friday. Gilston Gourmet were awarded five individual prizes including the coveted prize of Convenor of the Year that was bestowed on Nicole and a special commendation for our “green” menu. This recognition is richly deserved following the concerted efforts expended in recent years to refine food handling practices and food offerings to meet and, in some cases exceed, the expectations of the policy and guidelines. I congratulate the team, including our volunteers, and all those in the P & C for their work behind the scenes.

Deserving applause also is the group of students who, under Kylie’s tutelage, have been awarded first place in the Global School Film Competition. They too displayed these traits and will be individually rewarded for their efforts while winning additional resources for our languages program. This is the second year running that Kylie has led a group of students to this result and I commend her for her dedication. Please read more details about their win and prizes later in this newsletter.

In the past four years we have focused our collective energy on improving our school and the outcomes for our students. We have used the “School Improvement Hierarchy” that has its genesis in the Australian Council for...
Thank you for your prompt lodgement of the situation. I ask you to point out my oversight and I will immediately rectify it. If you haven’t received an invitation I despite our best efforts to find all volunteers I will have overlooked someone. If you haven’t received an invitation I ask you to point out my oversight and I will immediately rectify the situation.

Thank you for your prompt lodgement of the SRS forms. Based on these, invoices will be generated for all who have committed to participation. For those of you who have already paid please don’t be alarmed as the ladies in the office will apply your credit to the invoice for you.

As you move about the school grounds you will notice that we have undertaken some “aggressive” lopping of trees. Please do not be worried as this is intentional and these plants will respond quite quickly providing an impressive show in their regrowth. I encourage you to point out to your children the regrowth as it appears.

Social media is a powerful tool in the connection of people and the distribution of information. At Gilston we welcome the responsible use of special media to support our community. We applaud that parents exercise their responsibility to ensure that children only access social media after they reach the legal age outlined in the terms and conditions. In the spirit of respect, our enrolment agreement signed by all families requires that each individual “ensures personal use of social networking applications reflects positively on members of the school community”. I thank you for your ongoing promotion of this tenet.

Earlier this week I distributed the “hints for use of the collection zone” forms to drivers collecting children from school. For some it was a reminder to leave your arrival until after 3pm, for others it was a thank you for doing just that. Delaying the arrival until students have been released leads to minimal congestion at the entrance to the carpark making the collection of all students safer.

Stay safe and keep smiling.

Bruce

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Gilston Winners – the Global Schools Film Competition

I am pleased to inform our school community that students from our school submitted a winning entry in the recent Education Queensland Global Schools Film Competition 2016. The digital production by Deklan C, Ella McR, Josh A, Jasmine S and Josh P was judged best in the primary category in Queensland. As first place winners, our school will receive five iPad Airs for the Languages program. In addition, each of the students will receive a participation certificate and an iPad mini. Judges noted the students’ confidence in speaking in Japanese and strongly encourage all to continue their language learning and to participate in any future languages competitions.

Robyn Rosengrave, the Executive Director Curriculum, Teaching and Learning State Schools Performance, sends her congratulations on behalf of Education Queensland to all who participated, including the students’ teacher, Ms Kylie Doonican, and commends the school on their effective languages program.

Gilston Gardeners – Produce for Sale

Our gardening crew have finished their latest harvest and have come up with a very tasty tomato relish. The students have been tending their garden diligently for the last three terms now and have grown a variety of vegetables. They have also been maintaining different gardens around the school, happily using their time to make the school environment a cleaner tidier place. But wait, there’s more. The children haven’t just been doing all this, they have also learnt about the business of debt and profit, how to advertise, package and sell their wares. If you would like to partake in their latest culinary venture please drop into the award winning Gilston Gourmet and pick up a tub for one dollar. Be quick as stocks are limited and conditions apply. All the money they raise will be turned back into their future projects therefore making them self-sufficient and independent. Each day I see these children doing what they do, I can see in them the happiness that lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort. On their behalf, I hope that after making your purchase you will get to experience a little of this as well.

Koby’s Playground Area Guide

Koby’s Playground Area Guide for Gilston Students will make its movie premiere screening on assembly this Thursday afternoon. Follow Koby around the school to see who is able to play in the particular areas he visits. There are also other helpful reminders for how students can move around the school in a safe and proper fashion.

SWIMMING LESSONS

In week 8 of this term Nerang Swim Fit will conduct swimming lessons for Prep, Year 3 and Year 5. Payment of $35.00 is due by Thursday 10 November. See your class teacher for exact lesson times. Students require school uniform, togs, towel and thongs. Swim caps and goggles are recommended. As swimming is an approved component of our Physical Education Program all students are expected to attend. Please advise the office if your child is unable to swim due to a medical condition. Scott Stavar / HPE

SWIMMING CARNIVAL YEAR 4-6

This year’s carnival will be held on Thursday 1 December. The students will travel by bus to All Saints indoor swimming pool and compete in 25m and 50m events. As ribbons are awarded in all events, disqualification rules will apply. Food orders are to be handed to Mr Stavar in a bag/envelope. An order form will be made available soon.

www.gilstonss.eq.edu.au
A reminder that swim caps are compulsory and are available in house colours at the tuckshop for $8. This year, 9 year olds in Year 3 can compete at the carnival provided they are members of a swim club or are exceptional swimmers. This must be pre-arranged with Mr Stavar prior to the event. We look forward to another great carnival.

Scott Stavar / HPE

LIBRARY REPORT

Book Fair is on now! Please come and visit the library to see all the lovely books we have for sale. Book Fair finishes on Friday 18 November.

Kathy Stone / Librarian

JAPANESE NEWS

Congratulations to Deklan, Josh A, Jasmine, Ella and Josh P for producing the winning film in the Global Schools Film Competition – Primary division! These students worked very hard, before school and in lunch breaks to put this film together. From script writing to filming and editing they were a dedicated team and very deserving of this fabulous accolade! We will be presenting their brand new iPad Minis to them on assembly soon! Sugoii!

In 2017 we will be inviting selected students from Year 4 and 5 to attend an Extension lesson for Japanese each week. These students will be accelerated in their Language learning and lead various Languages activities and representative opportunities throughout the year. Invitations will be sent home soon!

Sugoii News

Our Sugoii Taiko Group made their debut performance outside school in Surfers Paradise on Thursday last week, opening the Music Count Us In Festival with a superb performance of two Taiko pieces they have been working on. Our Taiko 2017 auditions have been held today, for students from Grade 4-6 invited to attend. We will be announcing the members of our 2017 team next week.

Kylie Doonican – Languages Teacher

FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICER – MICHELLE DAVIES

Who’s chatting to your kids?
The internet today contains many sites that are designed to encourage children and teenagers to communicate by messaging each other in real time. Many of these sites contain areas where children can post personal information about themselves including their name, age, location, photographs, and contact details. Please take some time to discuss these on-line safety tips with your children:

- Never give out personal information on the net, like your full name, address, phone number or school, even sporting events attended, or locations of extra-curricular activities
- Ensure your screen name does not reveal personal information about you.
- Review your online profile. Predators can use this personal information to find you.
- Only allow your friends to view your personal blog and profile.
- Never send your picture to someone you don’t know.
- Don’t accept invitations to view webcams from unknown internet users.
- Never arrange for face-2-face meetings with people met online.
- Understand predators ask personal questions and attempt to become friends quickly.
- Time chatting online to a person does not equal trust or knowing the person.

Teach children the 5 R’s:

- REALISE – people you chat with may not be who they say they are, nor what age/sex they give.
- REFUSE – requests for personal information and ensure your internet profile is private.
- REVIEW – your contacts. It’s not “cool” to have contacts you don’t know.
- RESPOND – quickly if you ever feel uncomfortable while on-line. Close the program, tell your parents or a trusted friend.
- REPORT – any suspicious or dangerous on-line contact to the police.

(Adapted from Information provided by Queensland Police Service)

GILSTON GOURMET

Thursday 10 November – Jenny
Ice Blocks – Help needed

Friday 11 November – Jenny / Help needed
Ice Blocks – Help needed

Monday 14 November – Jenny / Help needed
Ice Blocks – Help needed

Tuesday 15 November – Melanie Harrison / Amelia Edwards
Ice Blocks – Joanne

Wednesday 16 November – Jenny
Ice Blocks – Kimmy

Thursday 17 November – Tracey Zimmerman
Ice Blocks – Help needed

Friday 18 November – Jenny
Ice Blocks – Help needed

Have you heard the news? Our award winning tuckshop won 6 awards at the Queensland Association of School Tuckshops Awards night on Friday night. These awards are on display in the tuckshop if you would like to come and view them. Thank you to Mel Wright, Karen Bowden, Tracey Zimmerman, Jenny, Mel Harrison, Amelia Edwards, valued volunteers, our P & C and the school community for their continue support and encouragement.

Thank you to all the staff, students and parents for the best wishes we received on Friday for “Tuckshop Day”. We all had an exciting day filled with love and appreciation.

Have a great week,

Nicole Meesen
Tuckshop Convenor