



# GILSTON STATE SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER



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### PRICIPAL'S REPORT

#### Why is reading aloud important?

Reading aloud:

- Presents books as a source of **entertainment** and a valuable experience.
- To children gives children the opportunity to grow their **vocabulary** and **understand** more about the world around them.
- To young children models what adults do when they read, helping them to understand the **reading process**.
- Helps children to **discover different types of literature** – poetry, picture books and rhymes.
- Introduces the **language of books** which differs from the everyday language of television and movies. Book language is more descriptive and uses more formal grammatical structure.
- Helps children to use their **imagination**.



Most of us do the very best we can in our job as parent. There is no single publication in existence that prepares us for this vital task but fortunately there are a range of high quality offerings though with which we can engage. At Gilston many families have taken advantage of the learning that comes from the Positive Parenting Program or Triple P.



The online version of **Teen Triple P** has just been released and is **available free** to parents under the Queensland Government initiative. Research on Teen Triple P shows that it reduces behaviour problems, parent stress and parent-teen conflict. Queensland parents can now access Teen Triple P as well as the **0-12 year's online program** [here](#).

### FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday	13-17 March	Swimming Year 1,2 and 4
Thursday	16 March	Prep 2018 Parents Information 9:30 am Library
Monday	20 March	Gala Day Year 5&6 Firth Park
Monday	20 March	Gilston State School P & C Annual General Meeting 7.00pm Admin Building
Friday	24 March	P&C Movie Night (Hall)
Wednesday	29 March	Cross Country
Friday	31 March	9:15 am P-3 Easter Concert (Hall)
Thursday	25 May	District Cross Country

### 2017 Explicit Improvement Agenda

Response to intervention (RTI):

Target driven intervention through:

- Data Analysis
- Consistent Core Instruction
- Progress Monitoring
- Supplementary and Intensive Intervention

### Gilston Expectations

- Be a Learner
- Be Responsible
- Be Respectful
- Be Safe

### Current Attendance Levels

P	1	2	3	4	5	6
95.96	95.98	95.71	95.86	94.64	95.07	93.75

We rightly often celebrate the achievements of our students however today I am proud to share with you that Maia and Reed's mother **Stacey** has been awarded the Nerang RSL & Memorial Club **Sportsperson of the Year**. Stacey is an active member of our school community, volunteering her time and skills to assist with our sports program and, along with her family, is a regular at our working bees. Stacey's award recognised her hard work and dedication that she contributes to the RSL netball club.

Last Friday I had a productive meeting with the administrators of the **Parents of Gilston State School Facebook page** and members of the P&C Executive. At this meeting we recognised the intent of the formation of the page and **clarified that protocols** were necessary to protect the administrators and ensure the **privacy of members** of our school community. As this is not a page hosted by the school, we examined possible safeguards to ensure that users did not **breach the enrolment agreement** pertaining to use of social media that parents signed when enrolling their child, **"...ensure that use of social networking applications reflects positively on members of the school community"**. As a consequence of this meeting I am aware that there has been an update on the page outlining the "page rules" to ensure all parties are aware of expectations. I **thank all involved** for their time and commitment to ensuring the page respects the privacy of individuals and casts a positive image of our school.

I am aware that there are additional pages that exist among parents at Gilston. I encourage hosts of these to reflect on the protocols required to meet privacy laws and the enrolment agreement of our school to legally protect themselves. If you are an administrator or host of a page and **wish to clarify aspects of privacy with me, please call the ladies in the office to make an appointment.**

As good instruction is essential for a child's cognitive development, **good nutrition** is essential for a **child's healthy development**. At Gilston, our tuckshop, "Gilston Gourmet" leads the way with healthy options that meet the requirements as outlined in the Education Queensland policy. To help parents with meals produced at home, Queensland Health has put out the Healthy lunchbox Video & articles.

If you are interested visit:

<https://www.facebook.com/QLDHealth/videos/1252595824848497/>  
<https://twitter.com/qldhealthnews/status/822287593060470786>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kGrXVU39Nwg>  
<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/news-alerts/news/school-lunchbox-shopping-listdont-be-boxed-in-by-unhealthy-choices>

From time to time students at schools, including Gilston, succumb to a range of **illnesses and diseases**. At these times we adhere to the guidelines provided for us to ensure students are excluded where appropriate and medical assistance is sought. Again it is the **experts** in the field that we engage to **guide our actions**.

To minimise the likelihood of spread of disease we are proactive in ensuring all spaces are cleaned appropriately.

Every principal from state schools in Queensland has been directed to attend the conference on the Gold Coast tomorrow and Friday.

The conference, that is held every two years, has been designed to provide principals with the opportunity:

- engage in an innovative and interactive learning environment with highly experienced educational leaders;
- stimulate critical thinking and test ideas and concepts with colleagues;
- develop and collaborate on conference topics through real-time engagement
- strengthen communication and foster peer support networks

I look forward to this learning opportunity with my colleagues.

Stay safe and keep smiling.  
Bruce

#### **DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT**

##### **Food for thought – something we already know or are aware of?**

So we've passed the halfway point of term one and over the last couple of weeks we've seen a rise in unwanted, and unwarranted behaviours from across the upper grades in our school. In short, students who have had years of instruction from the school about expectations relating to how one should behave at school, are not being adopted or heeded by these children.

In looking for reasons for the spike I've started researching why our children are finding life at school increasingly hard and making them unable to cope. In his latest book *Spoonfed Generation* (2017), Michael Grose says we do far too much for our children and are "raising a generation of nervous children who fall apart when a skerrick of pressure is applied to them."

He quotes figures of one in three girls and one in five boys in Australia now live with an anxiety disorder. It seems hard to come to terms with these figures in a country such as ours where we enjoy a prosperous economy and lifestyle.

He questions what has led to this epidemic of anxiety and although at Gilston State School we don't have any children at this stage, we can see traits emerging of a learned helplessness, described by Martin Seligman in 1967. His research found that organisms exposed to unwanted stimuli (negative social media and news reports, learning opportunities, being accountable for their actions), found it increasingly difficult to cope in life thereafter.

Michael Grose writes "our spoonfeeding ways mean we are raising a generation of risk-adverse kids who are incapable of making decisions without deferring to a parent, sibling or peer lest they make a mistake." These traits described above are becoming more visible at school by way of children not being able to cope or make informed and known decisions regarding their behaviour either to do with their learning or social interactions. He goes on to say "never before has a generation been so dependent on their parents, now it's time to remove the spoon and put it back in the drawer."

In the 2006 film, *Failure to Launch*, we see the storyline of children (adolescent's in this case), depending on parents for emotional, social and financial support well into their twenties and beyond. Commonly children ask "mum you forgot to give me/get me lunch."

*These statements and actions encourage dependency. The resulting behaviour learned by the child is that parents will do everything for them. They have given the responsibility to his mother for packing his lunch.*

*This, if left unchecked grows, and becomes "anything I don't want to/like to do, is mum's responsibility." For instance when a child breaks the school rules and is reprimanded for it, they can't cope, hence a learned helplessness and them calling on the parent and giving a selective account of the situation to fix it for them. Anyway it's a great read and I'd encourage anyone with an interest in children to have a read.*

### **Interschool Primary School Chess Tournament**

Wednesday the 8 March is the date for round one of the Gold Coast South chess competition. We have seven students from across the school representing our school on the day. Forms have gone out to parents of children attending the Monday afternoon lessons but if you need another please come and see me. Parents need to register their child online with Gardiner Chess at [www.gardinerchess.com.au](http://www.gardinerchess.com.au) click on "chess Players" and follow the prompts or phone on 55227221. We wish all those going along the very best and know you'll have a wonderful time learning new skills and meeting new people.

### **Our new Library Computer Room**



Our new computer room has currently twenty-nine computers for students to use. Teachers will be able to conduct ICT lessons in a modern fully functional environment with the added bonus of being able to cater for test conditions as the need arises.

### **GILSTON GOURMET**

#### **Tuckshop Roster**

Thursday 2 March – Rachel Delany

Ice blocks – Help needed

Friday 3 March – Amelia Brown/Jenny

Ice blocks - Help needed

Monday 6 March –Pip Collins

Ice blocks - : Help needed

Tuesday 7 March –Caroline Fitzroy/Melanine Harrison

Ice blocks - Help needed

Wednesday 8 March – Kirsty Robertson/Help needed

Ice blocks - Help needed

**Thursday 9 March –Help needed**

Ice Blocks – Help needed

Friday 10 March –Amelia Brown/Jenny

Ice blocks - Help needed

### **COMMUNITY NOTICES**

**HINTERLAND DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION** – Coaches/Parents Information Session Saturday 4 March 9.00-10.00am. Season starts Saturday 25 March 2017. For more information visit [www.hinterland.qld.netball.com.au](http://www.hinterland.qld.netball.com.au)

**GC FIVE A SIDES** are teaming up with Soccer X to provide a 20 week training programme for U5 – U7's soccer players. The programme will offer a fun & educational introduction to soccer for boys & girls. All sessions will take place at Robina & Tweed Heads. For more information please visit [www.gcfiveasides.com](http://www.gcfiveasides.com)

**ROBINA STATE HIGH SCHOOL ENROLMENT INFORMATION EVENING FOR YEAR 7 2018** – Monday 6 March 5.30-7.00pm – Performing Arts Centre, 1 Investigator Drive, Robina.  
**ROBINA STATE HIGH SCHOOL SIGNATURE PROGRAM INFORMATION EVENING** (Academic Excellence, Japanese Immersion, Community Action Service, Sport Academy Programs) – Monday 27 March 5.30pm. Performing Arts Centre, 1 Investigator Drive, Robina. For more information contact [acar161@eq.edu.au](mailto:acar161@eq.edu.au)

