



# GILSTON STATE SCHOOL

## NEWSLETTER



Principal: Bruce Langes  
Deputy Principal: Graeme Weatherburn

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### PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

As I write this piece, I am aware that **Cyclone Debbie** has crossed the mainland coast. Our thoughts are with those who have been affected by this disaster and with those assisting them. Yesterday I sent a message asking you to **be mindful of your children's thoughts** regarding the media coverage that is associated with natural disasters. Please advise us if your child is overly-anxious about what they have viewed so we can assist you in supporting them.

Term two will see a few staff changes at Gilston. The **Deputy Principal** role left vacant as Graeme takes up duty at Kowanyama will be filled by **Kelly Clark**. Kelly will be known to some of you as she was with us in deputy role in 2014/2015. **Lydia** McNeill will commence her maternity leave as she prepares to welcome their second child. **Kirsti** Hendrie will take the reins in the Year 1/2 class as **Jolie** Angus returns from maternity leave to the role of Support Teacher: Literacy and Numeracy. Finally **Chan** Moodley will transfer in her role as Special Education Teacher to Nerang SS where she currently teaches part-time. On behalf of the Gilston community I thank Chan for her dedication to her role, recognising the quiet unassuming manner in which she plied her trade.

I **congratulate** our **Prep Year** for being the best "**attenders**" for term one. I wonder which group will top the list in term two. Every school day at Gilston, the **vast majority of drivers observe the road and car park rules and extend courtesy** to their fellow drivers. This contributes positively to creating and maintaining a safe environment for our community. **Imagine if everyone followed this lead...**

Our instrumental music teacher, Steve Broxton has proudly informed me that **nine Gilston students have been accepted into the Regional Music Camp** this year. This is impressive and what is noteworthy is that **Trinity** (trumpet) and **Gin** (Keyboard) have been accepted in the Jazz Band group, a prestigious achievement given the competition for what is a small and very accomplished group. I congratulate all the students and Steve for this outcome.

On the topic of instrumental music, please note that due to a clash of space with the Easter concert and Steve's commitment offsite in the afternoon, there will be no band or instrumental music this Friday.

### FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday	31 March	9:15 am P-3 Easter Concert (Hall) <b>Last Day Term 1</b>
Tuesday	18 April	<b>First Day Term 2</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>18 April</b>	<b>Yr 2 Beenleigh Excursion</b>
Friday	21 April	Anzac Day Ceremony
Monday	24 April	Yr 6 Leadership Day Numinbah Valley
Tuesday	25 April	<b>Anzac Day Public Holiday</b>
Wednesday-Friday	26-28 April	Tallebudgeraba Camp year 4
Monday	1 May	Labour Day
Wednesday	4 May	Cross Country

Our website has access to all consent letters for any of the excursions listed above <https://gilstonss.eq.edu.au>

#### 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
96.72	95.49	95.29	95.74	94.62	95.70	94.07

As we head into the Easter break I remind everyone that we are a “uniform school”, the details of which are outlined in our [handbook](#). Following some recent breaches, today I have extracted a part of the detail to remind everyone of expectations: “Children are not to wear **jewellery** to school. The exceptions are watches and sleepers or studs for pierced ears. **Piercing** is to be limited to ear lobes with a maximum of two piercings in each. **No make-up, fake nails or nail polish** are to be worn at school, to avoid students being ridiculed or victimised or otherwise distracted from their studies. In particular the following are **not acceptable: head shaving, partial head shaving, severe undercutting, streaking** other than natural colours, **hair dying** of unnatural, bright or fluorescent colours.

The Easter break provides girls and boys (and school staff) time to recharge after **10 weeks of learning**. Much has been achieved this term and our **recent assessments are cause for celebration**. As part of your ongoing conversations with your child, make a point of asking them what they have learnt and why. Also ask them about their learning goals that were shared during your recent parent teacher meeting. Until next term, stay safe and keep smiling.  
Bruce

## DEPUTY PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

On my departure  
Firstly I'd like to thank everyone within the Gilston community for their wonderful support and friendship over the past years. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here and will have very fond memories of it to reflect on for many, many years to come.  
Perhaps a lot of people are wondering why I'm going?

I was approached by the Department a little while ago and asked if I'd entertain the idea of moving to a remote school in the Gulf of Carpentaria as a Deputy Principal, to which I ultimately agreed. During the time I deliberated over the offer, I thought of why I would leave what most would describe as comfortable in many respects, to something far removed from the Gold Coast. The answer to that is because of the reason I got into teaching. To give children my best effort.

So, in my new role, I see my focus in another area; that of developing graduate teachers' pedagogy (the art of teaching). In my new school I believe teachers (and Deputies), need to have a focus on learning through a Socio-Cultural model. Vygotsky had a view that “learning is constructed and negotiated through social experiences.” Further to this he argued that from birth children evolve and learn from their social environment. Because graduate teachers come from another socio-cultural background, I believe their knowledge of a student in a remote setting could be in deficit. This will make it very hard for them to engage with students. We (teachers and I), will need to work together and develop a focused direction to integrate the Australian Curriculum into a model that will fit with the audience in our classrooms and school. I plan to foster a strong collaborative culture within the teaching group and deepen their learning founded on new pedagogical partnerships both within the school, and by utilising outside support and agencies as a need is identified. I think the most rewarding trait that I could hope to build and impart, would be to develop capacity for results based on developing skills and competencies within the teaching group.

So after all that, what I'm trying to say is, I want to build great teachers so that when they complete their tenure 'in the bush' they will be those who accept a challenge, accept change, and willingly engage in learning beyond a narrow view of a

teaching role.  
I wish everyone the very best for their futures and may your God go with you.

Kind regards  
Graeme

## NEWS FROM THE SPORT DESK

**CROSS COUNTRY NEWS** – Unfortunately, due to the condition of the oval and the forecast of further rain, our Cross Country will not be held this week. It has been postponed and will instead be run on **Thursday 4 of May**.

With better conditions, the students will be able to practise after the holidays and become familiar with the course as required in the risk assessment. We apologise for any inconvenience and look forward to sunnier weather next term.

Congratulations to the following students for their recent efforts at Little Athletics:

Year 5 student Bianca Davis – U10 Age Champion  
Former Gilston student Chelsea Davis Participation Award  
Former Gilston student April Davis – Presidents Cup Award and U14 Age Champion  
Well done girls. Some future Olympians in the making I'm sure.

Scott Stavar  
HPE Gilston SS

## NEWS FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

**Junior Choir Performance** - The junior choir students (Year 2 & 3) will be performing a song at the Easter concert. The concert will be held on Friday 31 March, starting at 9.15am in the school hall. The choir students will be the last item on the program.

**The children will be dressed in their Easter costumes for their class items and do not need to change for the choir performance.**

Alison Miller - Music Teacher

## Japanese News

We have had a busy couple of weeks down in the Sugoi Hub with a very large Japanese group visiting last Friday and two groups coming to visit this week also. Our Preps are working today and tomorrow with the Japanese groups practising their introductions and learning more about Japan! We have also completed our first round of cooking with the recipe “Ishigakimochi”. You can find it attached to try at home through the holidays. Tanoshinde kudasai – please enjoy!

Thanks,

Kylie Doonican  
Gilston State School

## GILSTON GOURMET

### Tuckshop Roster

Thursday 30 March: Rachel Delany/ Brenda Flemming/  
Angela Griffin

Ice blocks: help needed

Friday 31 March: Angela Griffin/ **HELP NEEDED PLEASE**

Ice blocks: help needed

**Gilston Gourmet Report:** Our school movie night last Friday night was a great night. Thank you to all those families that came along and supported this event. A massive thank you to the following that volunteered their time throughout the day and night: Karen Bowden, Brenda Flemming, Paula Black, Tam Bell, Jemma Baldwin, Ameila Edwards, Caroline Fitzroy, Angela Griffin, Kylie Marks, Montrice, Erin Godfrey, Rachel Wood, Jenny, Melaine Harrison and Magen.

The Tuckshop has a raffle from the Movie night, which will be drawn on Thursday at assembly. Tickets are \$2.00 per ticket or 3 for \$5.00. Prize is 4 movie tickets, 4 soft drinks and a large popcorn. If you would like to buy a ticket please see Nicole at the tuckshop.

Friday **"Come to school for breakfast"**- last day of term. The Tuckshop will be open from 8am for breakfast. We will have an assortment of yummy breakfast items, which include Egg & Bacon burger \$3.50, Homemade Muffins \$1.00, and our famous homemade Cheese and Vegemite scrolls 50c. We will also have Tea and Coffee for \$2, along with all our usual drinks. Look forward to seeing all families.

Wishing you all a happy and safe Easter Holiday. See you in term 2.

Nicole Meesen  
Tuckshop Convenor

#### FROM THE FINANCE DESK - PAYMENT DUE DATES

EVENT	DATE AND VENUE	AMOUNT	DUE DATE
Yr4 Camp	26-28/4 Tallebudgera	\$140.00	Internet 18/04 Office 20/04
Yr 2 Beenleigh	18/4/17 Beenleigh Village	\$18.00	Office 30March

#### NEWS FROM THE COMMUNITY

**TRIPLE P PROGRAM** - 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](#).

**SEQ Water:** Upcoming planned burns will begin in the upcoming weeks until September 2017 depending on weather conditions. Further information [seqwater.com.au/fire-management](http://seqwater.com.au/fire-management)

**MERRIMAC STATE HIGH SCHOOL 2018 SELECTIVE ENTRY APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN** – The programs include STEAM Academy, Academic Summit, Sport Summit, Dance and Leadership. Visit the website for information and to download an application form. Year 6 into year 7 for 2018 Enrolment Information Evening will be held on Tuesday 16 May at 6.30pm in the school hall.

**EASTER SCHOOL HOLIDAY TENNIS FUN CAMP** - Monday 3/4/17, Tuesday 4/4/17, Wednesday 5/4/17, Monday 10/4/17, Tuesday 11/4/17, Wednesday 12/4/17. Platinum Tennis located at Hinterland Tennis Club, 5 Price Street, and Nerang. Full Day 8.30am-4.00pm \$40, Half Day 8.30am – 12 noon \$25. 3 Day Pass (Full Day) \$90 per person, 3 Day Pass (Half Day) \$60 per person. Activities include Hot Shot Tennis Coaching, Easter egg hunt, water bomb fight, Easter

egg painting, soccer, movie Interested? All children welcome aged between 4yrs - 16yrs. Call Jono 0488 696 939

**SURF LIFE SAVING QLD** - Runs the community based Little Lifesavers program at several locations across Queensland including Tallebudgera Creek. Our next program runs in the first week of the school holidays, 3<sup>rd</sup> April to 7<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at Tallebudgera Creek. We would love you to come along to our last program for the season. To register go to <http://lifesaving.com.au/littlelifesavers/>

**BLACK & BLING TRIVIA NIGHT** – come and join **Nerang State High School** community for a night of Black & Bling. Friday 26 May Nerang State High School Hall – 6.30pm for a 7.00pm start. Tickets \$10 each or \$12 on the night. Contact: Tracey Spiers 0412 267 263  
[pandc@nerangshs.eq.edu.au](mailto:pandc@nerangshs.eq.edu.au)

**WORLD WAR 1 CENTENARY DISPLAY & EDUCATION CENTRE** - The Display & Education Centre located at 48 Nerang Street, will be open from Thursday 9 March until Sunday 28 May 2017. Opening hours will be Thursdays & Fridays from 10:00am till 3:00pm, Sundays from 9:00am till 12:00pm. Members of the public of all ages are welcome.

**Admission is free.**  
The theme for 2017 is the battles of 1917 with particular emphasis on the role of the Australian Light Horse Regiments.

For more information, please contact Mark Swain on 0402 866 082 or email: [mikepowl@gmail.com](mailto:mikepowl@gmail.com)

**TITANS EASTER HOLIDAY CLINIC** - On Tuesday 4 April we will hold the Aquis Titans NRL Easter Holiday Clinic at Parkwood Village. Participants will receive morning tea, lunch, an NRL footy pack, Aquis Titans Membership, meet Aquis Gold Coast Titans players plus there will be a special appearance from the Easter Bunny with an Easter Egg hunt. Register participants by [clicking here](#)

**SANITARIUM WEET-BIX KIDS TRYATHLON** is coming to Broadwater Parklands on Sunday 7 May.

There are kids, super sprint and team's categories available with achievable distances and safe conditions, which makes triathlon a perfect sport for your students to enter.

Event details:

**Sanitarium Weet-Bix Kids TRYathlon~**

Sunday 7 May 2017 at Broadwater Parklands Distances:

**7-10:** 75m swim / 3km ride / 500m run

**11-15:** 150m swim / 6km ride / 1km run

For more info, visit [www.tryathlon.com.au](http://www.tryathlon.com.au)

