



Gillwinga Public School

A leader in Excellence Innovation & Opportunity

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

There is great excitement in the Infants classes as the children in Years 1 and 2 have moved into the refurbished classrooms. This was part of the Federal Government's Building Education Revolution. There is more space, new furniture, a room for group work, a wet area, Internet connections and Interactive whiteboards, just to name a few improvements. Parents are most welcome to come in and have a look at these magnificent classrooms. The building team is now refurbishing the remainder of the classrooms in the Infants and these will be ready by the end of term in readiness for 2011.



Year 1 in the newly renovated classroom



Loads of room for Cate and Krystelle to 'play'

Included with the newsletter today is a mathematics survey which will identify the strengths and areas for further development as part of the evaluation process of key programs in our school. Parents are invited to participate in this survey. However, please do not ask the children to answer the questions as they will be given their own survey here at school. The results of the survey will be published in the 2010 Annual School Report and it will also guide the school in terms of setting school targets for 2011. Please return the survey by Monday, 25th October.

Recently results were received for the International Mathematics competition. Congratulations are extended to the following children who were awarded a credit each: Megan Tillman, Jade Allen, Lex Bagster, Erica Tillman and Kiara Hankinson.



Maths winners

This Thursday, Kiara Hankinson has been selected to attend trials to gain selection in the North Coast Primary School's debating team. A team from the Arts Unit in Sydney will travel to Coffs Harbour to work with these selected children. This will be a wonderful opportunity for Kiara and we wish her the best of luck in her quest for selection in this team.

Our best wishes are extended to Erica Tillman who will be representing the North Coast region at PSSA State athletics this week. She will be competing in both the long jump and high jump events.

Thanks are extended to Mrs Carrigan who organised the trip to the Butterfly Farm for our K-2 students last Friday and to the many parent volunteers who came along to assist with supervision. The K-2 students had a wonderfully exciting day as evidenced by the following witty and entertaining observation of the day by Mrs Wyborn.

It's absolutely amazing and a little bit magical to watch a butterfly land on the outstretched fingers of a child. At the Butterfly Farm in Coffs Harbour, K/1/2 children and the goggle-eyed grown-ups with them, were entranced by these fragile, fluttery creatures. Actually we looked a bit like a platoon of zombies creeping along with our arms out hoping the butterflies would land on us. And they did! On hands, arms, hair, hats, glasses and noses. What a joy to watch the big, surprised eyes of little kids crinkle up with a grin as tiny, ticklish

butterfly feet trotted across their skin. A great day out to say the least. Oh and we learned lots too, even better!



Spot the butterfly!



Makayla and Ambar enjoying the Butterfly Farm

Mrs Woodhouse, who has provided the students of 3/4C with stability and a highly engaging learning program during Mr Cavanagh's absence will remain on 3/4C until the end of 2010 to ensure consistency for the class. If you wish to discuss this please contact me here at school.

Kind Regards
Colette Abrahall

Friday Assembly

Due to the renovations of classrooms and the rebuilding of the hall there is inadequate space for a combined Infants and Primary assembly each week. Therefore, during Term 4 Infants assembly will be held at 9:10 and Primary assembly will be held at 9:45. Both assemblies will be held in the library and take place on Friday. As always parents and community members are most welcome to attend these assemblies.

Jacaranda Youth March

On Saturday, 30th October, the children will participate in the Jacaranda Youth March. As the theme is a beach one your child is asked to wear beach clothes. **A hat and sunscreen are essential.** Wearing of coloured zinc would be most authentic. We encourage as many children as possible to attend the March, with the expectation that the Captains and Prefects will attend. Representatives of the teaching staff will meet the children at the Civic Centre from 8:30. The March will begin at 9am.

Gymnastics and Footsteps Programs

Both these programs are running concurrently across Term 4. The P&C has funded half the cost of both programs to enable all students to participate, as well as to support the school in its endeavours to provide a range of innovative and creative programs for our students.

The Footsteps program works out at \$2 per professional dance lesson and the gymnastics program costs a little less than \$2 per week. We thank the many families who have paid in full for both programs. The option is still there if you wish your child to participate. The costs are \$8.50 per 5 weeks of the gymnastics program and \$10.00 for the week's dance program. **The dance program takes place next week.**

Coles Sports For Schools Program

Our school has been registered for this program. Every \$10 spent at Coles or Bi Lo from 2nd September to 31st October will earn 1 voucher. There is a collection box for when the vouchers are sent into school. The more

vouchers collected the more sporting equipment the school receives.

Week 1 weekly award winners: Bailey Chalker, Adam Ward, Catherine Ferguson-Gardiner, Tatanya Whittaker, Shonta Morris, Hailey Duroux, Jack Kelleher and Willy Ferguson-Gardiner.

Term 4 Dates:

CSI: Wed Oct 20th, 27th; Nov 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th; Dec 1st, 8th, 15th

Ready, Set, Go Program: Mon 25th, Nov 8th

Gymnastics Program: Mon Nov 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th; Dec 6th, 13th

Soccer gala day Stage 2: Wed Oct 20th

Touch footy gala day: Wed Oct 20th

Footsteps dance program: Mon 25th Oct-Fri 29th Oct

Jacaranda Youth March: Sat 30th Oct

Jacaranda Day: Thurs 4th Nov

Kindergarten Orientation: Tues 16th Nov

6-7 Orientation at SGHS: Thurs 25th Nov

Presentation Day: Tues 7th Dec

Year 6 farewell: Tues 8th Dec

Assembly of Appreciation: Fri 10th Dec

Class Parties: Mon 13th Dec

Last day for students: 15th Dec

Staff Development Days: Thurs & Fri 16th & 17th Dec

Jump Rope for Heart**THANK YOU FROM JUMP ROPE FOR HEART**

On behalf of the Heart Foundation, the Jump Rope for Heart team would like to thank all the families and school community for their generous donations to the Jump Rope for Heart program at your school this year!

Not only have the students learnt some great skipping tricks while keeping physically active – but they have also had the chance to help us save lives.

We would like to acknowledge all the support from parents and teachers throughout the Jump Rope for Heart program this year. Thank you!

A special thank you also to Peta Carrigan for coordinating the program.

We are proud to announce Gillwinga Public School raised an amazing \$1,736.35

From the Jump Rope for Heart Team

Heart Foundation

WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

You will be shocked to know that cardiovascular disease is Australia's Number 1 Killer – and affects two out of every three families at your school.

Through fundraising with Jump Rope for Heart, schools across NSW have been able to help Australian students work towards better heart health by funding outstanding research projects, public education programs and engaging in physical activity.

Over 51 years since the Heart Foundation was established, we have been able to achieve so much, but we still have ambitious plans to continue reducing the enormous suffering caused by cardiovascular disease.

Together – we will make a difference

School Concert DVD

A copy of the school concert is still available on DVD for \$5 each. Please see the front office.



CANTEEN ROSTER

Wed 20 th Oct:	Natalie Bullock Tracey Heywood
Thurs 21 st Oct :	Nolene Chevalley
Fri 22 nd Oct:	Marjorie Bramble Ron Bramble
Mon 25 th Oct:	Deneal Connelly
Tue 26 th Oct:	Lee Hodge

P&C NEWS

A reminder that the portrait photographs are to be collected on Thursday afternoon in the school library. A time to collect the photographs should have been given to those people on the day the photos were taken.

School backpacks are available for purchase from the front office. They have been reduced to \$12.00.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Bent Street Buddies

Playgroup Starts Thursday 14th October 10-11.30am. Music, dancing, games, craft, for ages 5 and under. Bent Street Uniting Church, Cnr Bent and Norrie Street, South Grafton.

PLAYGROUP

For Dads & their kids

Term 4, starting on Thursday 21st October 10am to 12noon At the "Chataway Room" Chataway Lane, Grafton (Crown Hotel end of Prince Street, the little Street next to the Pullen Centre.)

Playgroup is FREE with morning tea provided for Dads and children. Come and enjoy the company of other dads while your children play! Playgroup will run every 2nd Thursday during the School Terms.

Dates for Term 4: 21st Oct, 4th Nov, 18th Nov, 2nd Dec, 16th Dec.

For details contact Kristen at Community Programs Inc. on 6642 7257.

JACARANDA

For a full listing of all events during Jacaranda Week check out the website

www.jacarandafestival.org.au

Saturday 23rd October

Jacaranda Children's Party from 9am in Market Square. This very popular morning will feature children dressed in array of costumes, dancing the hokey pokey with all of this years Jacaranda Queen Candidates, and feasting on Happy Jacaranda Cake. This event is also where the Flower Girl, Page Boy, Junior Princess and Junior Prince for the 2010 festival will be selected.