



Gillwinga Public School

A leader in Excellence Innovation & Opportunity

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Principal: Colette Abrahall

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1st December, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the staff, I warmly welcome you all back for the start of the year, particularly our new students and their families and our Kindergarten children. We are looking forward to working as partners in the education of your children.

The following two major events will take place this week and we invite our school community to join us on these two occasions.

Leaders Induction Ceremony

Our first whole school event will be the induction of our school leaders on this Thursday, 3rd February, at 9:30am. Our school captains, vice captains and house captains will all be inducted at this ceremony.

Swimming Carnival

Our swimming carnival will be held this Friday, 4th February for the children in years 3-6. If your child is in Year 2 and turns 8 this year he/she is invited to compete at the carnival. A note with further details about the carnival will be coming home this week.

We will be joining with Coutts Crossing Public School as this has proven to be most popular during the past two years and we invite all our parents and community members to come along and cheer on the children.

School book pack/ fees

Attached to the newsletter today is a note with information about the school/book pack fees. Thanks are extended to the many parents who have already paid.

Kind Regards

Colette Abrahall

P&C and Canteen

The annual general meeting for both these parent bodies is to be held next **Monday, 7th February at 3pm in the school staff room.** Due to a number of our past members' children moving onto high school it is important that more of our parents become involved with these committees to ensure their continued success. The meetings are also great occasions to have a cuppa and catch up with other parents. See you all there on Monday!

Parent Tips:

Education Tax Refund

Buying new school-related equipment? Don't forget to keep your receipts; you might be eligible for an Education Tax Refund. More information at www.educationtaxrefund.gov.au

Don't forget to label your child's belongings

You can:

- use a permanent laundry marker to label clothes, hats and shoes, or sew or iron on personalised labels
- go through your child's bag with them each night
- check that labels haven't faded with washing
- if something doesn't come home, ask at the office where your school's lost property area is.

Tips for packing their lunch boxes

- Pack food that is easy to open, easy to eat and not messy.
- Write their name on their lunch box, water bottle and any other containers.
- Include a frozen drink bottle to keep food cold. Wrap it in a tea towel in case it leaks.
- Use insulated lunch boxes or cooler bags.
- Avoid using plastic wrap because children find it hard to pull apart, paper bags are better for the environment too.
- Pack tissues or paper around fruit so it won't bruise.
- Remind your child to wash their hands before eating and use the toilet at recess and lunch.
- Pack a water bottle for your child each day and remind them that they can also get water from the taps or bubblers throughout the day.

Canteen Help Needed

At the moment the canteen is planning for 2011 and it appears that many of the regular workers either have their children going to high school or will be working full time in 2011. As it is essential that parents run and organise the canteen, if the help is not forthcoming the canteen may need to be closed for some days during the week.

If you know you will be available to work on the canteen roster during 2011 please complete the tear off slip below and return to school. Volunteering for just one day a month is all that is required. If we all give a little of our time it will certainly benefit the children as the canteen is the major fundraiser for our school.

Canteen Helpers for 2011

I will be available to work on the canteen during 2011

No of times per month: _____

Preferred days: _____

Name: _____

Contact no: _____

Please return this note to the front office

**CANTEEN ROSTER**

Mon 7 th Feb:	Sharon Wright
Tues 8 th Feb :	Canteen closed
Wed 9 th Feb:	Deneal Connolly
Thurs 10 th Feb:	Michelle Tainsh
Fri 11 th Feb:	Beth Herkess Sharen Bagster
Mon 14 th Feb:	Michaela Kaptein Jo Bell
Tues 15 th Feb:	Closed

P&C NEWS

The first combined P&C and Canteen meeting will be held on Monday 7th February, 2011 at 3pm in the staffroom. Everyone is welcome.

Uniform stockists:

- Best & Less: Brown shorts and skorts are available for \$10 and \$18 respectively.
- Low Pressure Surf Shop: Brown Harro shorts 2 for \$50 until end February.
- Shopping online:
www.stubbiesschoolwear.com.au has brown scotch guard cargo shorts for \$19.99. If you spend \$50 or more postage is free otherwise postage is \$10. OR
<http://shop.ebay.com.au/jumbokids> has girls skorts and shorts plus boys shorts all for \$9. Also has winter gear. Once you enter this site click on uniforms then brown. When you order, wait for an invoice as it will have a reduce postage cost or email this shop and they will tell you in advance.
- The Gillwinga shirt can only be purchased from the school (\$23).
- Brown and Yellow bucket hats are available from the school (\$7).
- The Gillwinga school cap is only for Year 5 and 6 students.

- The school clothing pool has a small selection of items.
- If you know of any other stockists please let us know.

If school items are labelled, when the P&C go through lost property they return items with names to their owners. A white out pen is a good way to put names on dark clothing and seems to last longer than permanent marker and can be read more easily.

CANTEEN NEWS

Canteen will be closed during the first week of school in 2011. It will open on Monday, 7th February 2011.

A new menu with updated prices is attached to this week's newsletter.

The canteen will be closed on Tuesdays in 2011 due to lack of volunteers. We are also in desperate need of 1-2 volunteers for one Friday a month, otherwise the canteen may be shut on this day as well.

School Photos: Will be taken on 4th March which is Week 6 of this Term.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Physical Culture:

Grafton Physical Culture classes will commence back in February 2011. Registration day is Tuesday 8th February 2011 at the Grafton Public School Hall 4.30 to 5.30pm. Physie promotes good posture, flexibility, self esteem, coordination, team spirit, fitness, friendships and fun. Physie is a form of dance incorporating marching, exercises, jazz dance, ballet and gymnastic movements. Physie is for girls aged 3 years to ladies. For further information call Justine on 0431 470 552.

Tucabia Bears Soccer Club: Sign on days Thursday 10/2/11, 17/2/11, 24/2/11 from 4.00pm at Tucabia soccer fields. Enquiries phone Fiona Pacey 6644 5423 or mobile 0414 281 138.

South Services Soccer Club: Soccer season is almost HERE!!!!

South Services Gunner Soccer Club will be hosting sign on days at Rushforth park on the 5th, 12th & 19th of February 2011 from 9am - 1pm. Fees are payable on these days.

If you would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact me direct on 02 66049207 or via email service@kencasson.com.au

Junior Hockey **Fast,fun,exciting**

Hockey sign on day Saturday 19th February (Shopping World)

and Saturday 26th February (Hockey Centre)12-00 to 2-00 p.m.

Boys Games played in U/7,U/9,U/11,U/13 and Under 16's divisions.

Girls play in grades based on ability levels. .
Two international water-base fields in 2011