



Gillwinga Public School

A leader in Excellence Innovation & Opportunity

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Principal: Colette Abrahall

Issue No 6 Term 1

8th March, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The music program is well and truly up and running with Ms Kristina Edwards providing a wonderful band program for our students. The newer band members of Wes Fernando, Chloe McCafferty, Lily Tainsh, Brandan Holten, Trey Isenhood, Jesse Ross, Zekob Simiana, Madison Beilby, Sar-j Skeen, Cassandra Ward, Jade Allen and Shanaya Stirling have joined our experienced group of musicians, Lex Bagster, Charlie Ford, Michael Wright, Josie Cross, Hugh Terry and Tegan Fallon who are playing with self-confidence and talent. We are looking forward to their performances throughout the year.



Part of our music program extends to the choir which will continue under the expertise of Ms Kristina Edwards this year. With assistance from Ms Watters the children are thoroughly enjoying singing in preparation for the Grafton Eisteddfod in Term 2.



Kind Regards
Colette Abrahall

A Pizza Shop at Gillwinga?

You could have been forgiven for thinking that 3C had opened their own pizza shop last week! Customers purchasing the pizzas may have been sadly disappointed when they were presented with play dough pizzas topped with meat made from confetti and match stick pineapple! 3C were actually learning about assembly lines and the need to standardise ingredients, as part of a COGS lesson on Products and Services. The students will now use this knowledge to complete a design task and create a nutritious snack that uses correct health and safety procedures.



Year 6-7

Recently publications for parents of Year 6 students on how to enrol their child at a public high school as well as an expression of interest for their child's placement in Year 7 for 2012 were sent home. Please complete the expression of interest and return to the school as soon as possible.

Helping your child with speech writing

Spend some time listening to your child's speech. Try to avoid cooking at the same time as they need to practise looking at faces when they talk and give feedback on how they present and time them with a stopwatch so that they can pace their speech to reach the correct time.

Make sure they practise:

- saying the ends of words clearly
- using a variety of pitch and pace when speaking
- looking at the audience while speaking
- glancing at their speech cards, not reading every word. (Young students who are not fluent readers may have picture clues to help them remember each part of their speech.)

More tips at

www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/ezine/yr2009/issue04/public.php

Tips for parenting tweens

Tweens are aged from 9-14 years. They are in the middle years — no longer children and not yet teenagers but somewhere between, hence the term 'tweens' or 'tweenagers'. During these years there is a rush of hormones, peers become more important and tweens become more independent.

Simple things you can do for your tween:

- eat meals together - there is a lot of evidence that shows this is powerfully protective for kids in modelling good behaviour and giving them a sense of belonging.
- know what kids are up to with their friends and online.
- encourage activities outside of school run by trusted adults.

- keep the connection with school and attend significant events.
- provide clear and consistent ground rules for behaviour.
- undertake a parenting program or read books on parenting this age group.

School Banking**Celebrating 80 years of School Banking in 2011**

For 80 years the School Banking program has been improving the financial literacy skills of students. To celebrate this milestone the Commonwealth Bank is contributing \$1.5 million to primary schools across the country to kick start their fundraising for the new school year. As our school currently participates in the School Banking program we will be receiving a \$300 contribution from the Commonwealth Bank to kick start our 2011 fundraising efforts. Thank you to all the students that participate in the School Banking program.

Welcome to School Banking for 2011!

This year the School Banking Rewards Program has launched fantastic new reward items. Each reward item is worth 10 tokens each. Once your child has individually collected 10 tokens they need to include them in their deposit wallet along with the coupon for the reward item they would like to redeem. The coupons can be found on the redemption card that was included in the pack you received. Please remember to get your child to write their name and class on the back of the coupon. Although it may be tempting for children to pool their tokens to redeem them for reward items faster, the Rewards Program has been designed to reward children for their individual savings behaviour. Therefore tokens must be collected and redeemed on an individual basis only.

If your child does not have a Youthsaver account, please visit the Admin Office for a School Banking pack which includes an application form to get started with School Banking. If you are an existing Commonwealth Bank customer with access to NetBank you can apply for your child's

Youthsaver account online. Simply log into NetBank, click the "Offers and apply" tab, then select "Accounts" and "Youthsaver". Please have your child's birth certificate handy.

School Banking day is every Tuesday.
School Banking Co-ordinator: Mrs Sharen Bagster

For more information please visit commbank.com.au/schoolbanking

Dates to remember:

School Banking: Every Tuesday

Clarence Science Initiative (CSI): 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th (Mar); 6th Apr

Responsible Pet Program: Thurs 10th Mar

Harmony Day: Mon 21st Mar

Special Canteen Day: Tues 22nd Mar

Multicultural community day: Tues 29th Mar

School nurse: Mon 4th Apr

Easter Hat Parade: Thurs 7th Apr

CANTEEN ROSTER

Wed 9th Mar: Deneal Connelly

Thurs 10th Mar: Michelle Tainsh

Fri 11th Mar: Sue Osborn
Marjorie Bramble

Mon 14th Mar: Jo Bell
Tanarra Taylor

Tues 15th March: CLOSED

CANTEEN NEWS

If you know of anyone who can volunteer in our school canteen please let the staff in the front office know.

Please note the canteen will be closed on Tuesdays in 2011 due to lack of volunteers.

No items are available from the canteen on Tuesdays.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Tiny tots market: On Saturday 19th March Grafton Sports Centre is holding its very first **tiny tots** market! Tiny Tots is a pre loved market for everything baby, kids and maternity! The way the market works is through individual stall holders selling their pre-loved goodies. Only good quality baby, kids or maternity clothes, toys, prams, or anything child related will be acceptable for sale, so you know you'll be getting the best, at a fantastic price! **We are looking for stall holders!!**

Date: Saturday 19th March 2011

Location: Grafton Sports Centre Powell Street Grafton (next to the tenpin bowl)

Time: 9am till 12pm

Cost: entry is \$2 and kids are free!

Refreshments: Coffee, light food and refreshments will be available throughout the morning

Full information package is available by emailing Sarah : sc@clarence.nsw.gov.au or calling 6643 1188

South Junior Girls Hockey

There will be a short training and information afternoon Wednesday 9th March on the grass fields at lower Fischer Park, Villiers St Grafton commencing at 4pm, for girls who have signed up or would like to sign up to play hockey in 2011. Girls from Kindergarten to year 6 all welcome. There will also be a sign on table near the Pavilion during the Daily Examiner Competition on Thursdays. Please contact Kerry Barton 66447808 or email kerry.barton@det.nsw.edu for information.

BMX – Clarence Valley BMX Club will be holding a free come & try day on Saturday 26th March 2011 from 10am at the track on the corner of Abbott & Vere Street, South Grafton (behind the Royal Hotel in Ryan Street, South Grafton). Kids (from 4 years) and parents can join in for free and learn the basics of BMX racing. Bring a bike, helmet and long clothes and covered shoes. Each participant will receive a show bag and a free BBQ to follow. For more information contact President Susan Polsen 66434431.



Tennis Open Day: Grafton District Tennis Association Open day was cancelled last Saturday due to rain. It is now planned for this Saturday, 12th March at 4.00pm at the City Courts.

Junior Tenpin Bowling: New season of Junior Tenpin bowling has commenced, Monday 4.30pm bumpers and teenagers league, Wednesdays 4pm Bumpers and 4.30 teenagers double league and Thursday 4.30pm teenagers singles league. All league members can receive FREE coaching on Tuesday & Thursday from 4pm to 6pm. For more information phone 66426055.

Bush Poets Night: and Entertainment Saturday 16th April "Squatters Rest" 7pm \$10 ticket. Book now 0428 543 055.

Children's Dentist: Suzie Jonklaas has been providing dental treatment for children for almost 30 years. Appointments are available for children at Fitzroy Dental Clinic, 155 Fitzroy Street, Grafton. Phone: 6642 5211 for an appointment and information regarding the cost of treatment.