



Newsletter

Gillwinga
Public School

A Leader in Excellence, Innovation + Opportunity



MUSIC SCHOLARSHIPS

Congratulations to Mervyn Weatherall and Carter Smith both of whom have received music scholarships for 2015 from the Clarence Valley Conservatorium. These boys have worked extremely hard with their respective tutors and it is great to see their persistence recognised and rewarded. Thank you to the Clarence Valley Conservatorium for providing this wonderful opportunity for our students.

SWIM SCHOOL

This week swim school commenced and will continue to run until Friday 28th November. Students are reminded that they need to bring in their money for pool entry each day otherwise they won't be able to attend.

YEAR 4/5/6 CAMP

Thank you to all those year 4/5/6 families who have supported the Yarrawarra Camp. It was great to see that all those students who indicated that they would be attending paid in full by the due date. Mr Simpson and Ms Cross will be heading down to Yarrawarra on Wednesday to have a look at the venue and finalise the few remaining details. Fingers crossed the weather will be on our side and everyone will have a great time.

K/1/2 EXCURSION

It was very pleasing last week to see the smiles on the faces of the K/1/2 students after their trip to Coffs Harbour. There were some great stories about what they found in the rock pools and on along the beach. Thank you again to Mrs Baker, Mrs Perl, Miss Albert, Miss Watters, Mrs Sullivan, Mrs Black and Miss Grewal for helping to make the excursion a success.

SCHOOL CANTEEN

Due to lack of volunteers the canteen will be run by school staff as of Monday 24th November until 9th December. This is the only way we can continue to support the needs of our students in this area for the remainder of the year. The canteen will only be open at lunchtime. Students will still be able to order lunches but from a reduced menu. We will trial this arrangement until the end of week 10 this term but if it is unsuccessful or takes away too much support time from students we will not be able to continue. It is important that additional canteen volunteers are found or we may not have a viable canteen for next year. This is not the best possible solution but unfortunately it is the only one available to us at this stage.

The following menu will be available to 9th December: Ham & cheese sandwich or wrap (toasted available), jam or vegemite sandwich, honey soy chips,



flavoured milk, poppers, frozen yoghurt, icy poles and slushies. All items need to be pre-ordered (including frozen items).

Those parents who have volunteered in the canteen throughout the year have done an excellent job and the students and staff have greatly appreciated the support they have given to everyone in the school.

YEAR 6 FAREWELL DINNER

The Year Six Farewell is set down for Wednesday 10th Dec at the Grafton Golf Club. We have been approached by a number of the year six parents to allow them to join the students for the meal as well as the other activities on the night. In the past it has always only been students, staff and invited guests for the meal but this year we have decided to open up the night to any year six parents who would like to join the students for the meal. The cost will be \$25 per head. It is an alternate drop of a Lamb and Chicken dish. Any parents wishing to attend need to advise the front office of numbers (maximum of 2 adults per family) and money needs to be paid to the front office on or before Monday 1st December.



LEADERSHIP POSITIONS IN 2015

We have six students who have nominated for leadership positions in 2015. Well done to Zac Pacey, Mandawuy Bell, Alex Schulz, Hanna Kaptein & Krystelle Lentfer for having the confidence to nominate for a position in 2015. All students will be presenting their speeches on Tuesday 25th November in the hall from 9:00am. Any parents and interested community members are invited to come along and listen to the speeches.

BAND TOUR

Last week our band went on tour and visited three small schools - Glenreagh, Nana Glen and Coramba. The students performed extremely well despite the very hot, tiring weather. This is another example of the great opportunities that Gillwinga is providing for students who are willing to be involved in the activities that are offered to them. Once again we must thank Chris Edwards, Sharyn Fallon, and Michaela Kaptein for providing the transport for the students.

THANK YOU

Gillwinga School would like to thank Briony and Sidney Kelly's Grandparents for their very generous donation to our school. After visiting Briony and Sidney for our special Grandparent's Assembly, Meg and Mike were so impressed with the wonderful work that our school was doing that they donated \$75 to our school to buy books for our library. Briony and Sidney have already enjoyed reading some of these books.





FACEBOOK

There are many Social Media sites available that provide a vehicle for disseminating information to many people. For this reason we hope to be able to utilise Facebook very soon to let people know about the many positive things that are happening at Gillwinga but it is unfortunate when we hear about school issues being discussed through Social Media sites .

People need to be aware that Social Media sites are not like a two way conversation held in the relative security of your own home. Social Media can be open to everyone and may be viewed by someone with which you may have no direct connection too at all. The school is here to support the students and community. We have been working extremely hard to improve the image of the school and are extremely appreciative of the many positive comments that people have been making about the school and students in the local community.

This year we have made a concerted effort to be involved in a number of community based activities that highlight the many positive aspects of the work that everyone does at Gillwinga. All this work can be undone very quickly if wrong or inaccurate information is provided to other people. Everyone is entitled to their own opinion on any number of issues but the question needs to be asked "is social media the place to discuss these issues"?

The school and the community are here to work together to provide opportunities for the students and if there is a problem we should all be working together to find a solution. People need to be aware that comments made on social media are a permanent record and people who make those comments are accountable for them.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more you are a leader" – John Quincy Adams

SCHOOL BANKING

The last day for school banking will be Monday 1st December. Community invited to select books for their library

COMMUNITY NEWS

CLARENCE Valley libraries are giving library goers the opportunity to choose new books to be added to the library shelves. "This has become something of an annual event that gives people the chance to go through a large selection of new books and pick the ones they would like to read," she said. This year's community book selection event is on at the Grafton Library from 3-6pm on Wednesday, November 19. As well as hundreds of fiction and non-fiction books for all ages this will be the first time DVDs will be included in the items for selection.

