From The Principal

Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Congratulations Ainsley. There is a lot of preparation and training that helped her reach this level. We wish you all the best for Friday 4th April.

Congratulations also to the Gillieston Cross Country team who will be representing us at the Maitland Zone Carnival at Tocal on Thursday 3rd April.

Each zone can only nominate up to six girls to compete. Being selected is a real achievement.

The NSW PSSA Championships will be held at Tomaree on May 28 to 30.

Easter/Harmony Day.

The P&C will be having the Annual General Meeting (AGM) at 9:15am on Thursday 10th April. It was discussed at the monthly meeting last week that the positions and roles were advertised in our Newsletter. Following are excerpts from The Official Handbook of Federation of Parents and Citizens Association of NSW (2013).

There are detailed fact sheets available from the office or they can be downloaded from www.pandc.org.au

Why do P&C Associations exist?

116(1) The objects of an Association are to:

- Promote the interests of the school by bringing parents, citizens, students and teaching staff into close co-operation;
- Assist in providing facilities and equipment for the school and in promoting the recreation and welfare of the students at the school; and
- Encourage parent and community participation in curriculum and other education issues in schools where there is no School Council.

5. Office-Bearers

(a) The Executive Committee, which shall be constituted of the Officer of the association and up to six other members,
shall carry out the decisions of the association. Members of the Executive Committee shall not receive any remuneration or other material benefit by reason of their position in the association. A member of the Executive Committee may be removed from office by resolution of the association carried at a properly convened general meeting or special meeting, providing at least seven days’ notice has been given to members.

(b) The Officers shall consist of President, two Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Secretary, and shall be elected at the annual general meeting.

(c) The President shall preside at all meetings except that, in the absence of the President one of the Vice-Presidents shall preside and, in the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents, the committee shall elect a chairperson.

(d) The Secretary shall attend meetings and keep a record of all business conducted. On relinquishing office the Secretary shall hand over records, minutes, account books, etc. to the incoming Secretary.

(e) The Treasurer shall receive and deposit monies, maintain records, draw cheques and present accounts to each General Meeting; present all records for auditing each year and shall hand over all records to the incoming Treasurer on relinquishing office. The requirements for handling money, keeping records, etc. in the School Manual on Financial Management shall be followed.

Should it be necessary during the unavoidable absence of the Treasurer, another Officer of the association may receive any monies, issue receipts and either deposit the monies in an association account or hand the monies to the Treasurer within two business days, taking receipt for same.

Karen Johanson

**School Contribution**

Each year families are asked to contribute money to the school that will assist us in providing interesting and engaging lessons.

We are asking again for $20 per child up to three children, (the 4th is free).
Quolls
We are learning about the properties of 2D shapes and making tessellating designs by reflecting, translating and rotating. We are also learning about the relationship between multiplication and division.

This week the students have the opportunity to access Raz-Kids and listen to or read a book of their choice.

A reminder that class projects are due at the end of next week, ready for presentation to the class in week 11.

Library
This week in the Library, Koalas, Possums and Wallabies will be listening to “A Monster Wrote Me a Letter” by Nick Bland (PRC18561)

Bilbies and Quolls will be listening to “Alexander Who Used to be Rich Last Sunday” by Judith Viorst (PRC12725)

Dugongs will listen to “Fox” by Margaret Wild.

Come and check out our new Harmony Day display in the Library Foyer.

Wallabies
This week, year 1 and 2 have been learning about procedures. We have been using primary games to do cooking procedures to make recipes such as rainbow cup cakes and pizza.

Dugongs
This week, Dugongs have been learning about Harmony Day and how people from other cultures celebrate who they are and where they come from.

Some students from our class also enjoyed an online gaming workshop.

Koalas
We had fun at the cross-country races. We have been enjoying doing activities with 2D shapes.

Kinders made some great pictures and patterns. Year 1 made some interesting symmetrical designs.

Bilbies
During our drama lessons we have been creating skits using nursery rhymes that we have re-written using our Australian theme.

We look forward to sharing them during assembly at the end of the term or early next term.

PS: If anyone has spare thin ribbons, please donate to the Bilbies for our Easter craft.

Please give your ribbon donations to Mrs Thompson.
Possums

This week Possums have been learning about 2D shapes. We found lots of shapes on our shape hunt around the school. In groups we made shapes with our bodies.

“The circle is my favourite because I like pizza,” - Temperance
“Rectangles are the best shape because they are tall,” - Dallas
“Hexagon have six sides and I’m nearly turning six,” Raya

Easter/Harmony Day

Friday 11th April 2014

9:05 to 10am Children go into class, rolls are marked. Then, children may go with their parents, carers or grandparents to Book Fair.

10 to 11am Harmony Day activity in Peer Support groups.

11am Picnic lunch with families (P&C have a BBQ)

12noon Easter Hat Parade (Hats to be made at home)

1 to 1:30pm Children return to class. Children may go with their parents, carers or grandparents to Book Fair.

1:35 to 2:05pm Recess.

2:05pm to 3:05pm Children return to class. Parents and grandparents may wish to bring:
* Picnic chair
* Picnic lunch
* Hat/sunscreen

Students, parents and grandparents are encouraged to wear orange as we join together to celebrate Harmony Day.

Easter Hats need to be made at home and can be stored in classrooms until parade or brought in at 12:00.

The Book Fair is in the Library. Book prices range from $7 to $30 as they are quality books from well-known authors. Students without parental supervision can visit the Book Fair during second half lunch.

For Child Protection reasons we ask that you only take photos of your own children on the day.
Last Friday was a special day, Anti-bullying Day. It was all about knowing that bullying has no place in our school or our lives.

It involved getting into our Peer Support Groups and making chalk drawings and messages along the concrete path - This is called the Chalk Walk.

Bank On It by Lakayla and Samuel

Tuesdays at school is banking day.

This means that your child can make real deposits into their own banking account.

If your child has never banked at the school, information is available at the office.

The rewards for banking are, handballs, scented pencils, Penguin or Shark Plush toy keyrings, Whale Shark pencil cases, Dollarmites Money Boxes, Swimming Bag, Projector cup and Sea Streamers.

These prizes can be won by making deposits. Deposits earn you gold and silver tokens that can be collected and exchanged for prizes.

Banking at school helps us learn about money, it’s value and how we can use it well later in life.

For more information about school banking, contact the school office.
School Leaders Heading to Sydney

The National Young Leaders Day is an annual event founded in 1997 to develop strong leadership values amongst young Australians.

The program consists of keynote talks, multimedia presentations and interactive learning that seek a range of specific outcomes for young people who aspire to lead themselves and others well.

Ita Buttrose, the Hon. Bob Carr, Andy Griffiths and Coen Ashton will be this year’s speakers.

Our student leaders will be travelling to Sydney on Monday, 31st March to attend this year’s event.

Cross Country.

Well done to all students who participated in last week’s cross country event. The results of the event will be announced at this week’s assembly.

On behalf of the staff and the students I would like to say ‘THANK YOU’ to all of the parents who helped on the day. Your help was greatly appreciated.

Great Aussie Bush Camp - REMINDER (Stage 2)

To assist with the organisation for this camp we ask that you return the permission note and deposit before the end of Term 1. If you have any questions please see Mrs Morante or Mrs Thompson.

Active After School Activities

This week sees the end to Active After School Activities for Term 1. Students have enjoyed learning new soccer and basketball skills. Term 2 activities will be League Tag and Gymnastics. More information will be available next term.
**Diary Dates**

**31st March**  
Young Leaders’ Day in Sydney

**3rd April**  
Zone Cross Country

**9th April**  
School ANZAC Day Ceremony

**11th April**  
Easter/Harmony Day

**11th April**  
Last day of Term 1

**25th April**  
Maitland ANZAC Day March and Service

**BANKING DAY**  
Banking Day every Tuesday  
- A great way to teach your children about the value and control of their money

**Friday Assembly**  
9.15am - Parents and Guardians welcome

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**Week 8 Award Winners**

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<tr>
<th>KOALAS</th>
<th>WALLABIES</th>
<th>QUolls</th>
<th>Mrs HENNEN</th>
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<tr>
<td>Byron</td>
<td>Sam</td>
<td>Jessica</td>
<td>Flinn</td>
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<td>Xander</td>
<td>Jack</td>
<td>Bradley</td>
<td>Zoe</td>
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<td>Lily</td>
<td>Makiah</td>
<td>Joel</td>
<td>Tyrone</td>
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<td>Temperance</td>
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<tr>
<th>POSSUMS</th>
<th>BILBIES</th>
<th>DUGONGS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Riley</td>
<td>Sam J</td>
<td>Amber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bradley</td>
<td>Flinn</td>
<td>Emmanuel</td>
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<td>Temperance</td>
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**Got a Green Thumb?**

Volunteers to help with the school’s vegie garden.  
Anyone interested should contact **Tegan** on **0401582263**.  
Also, **donations** are welcome - we are in need of...  
Egg cartons, sugar cane mulch, potting mix, gardening tools, plants and seeds, fertilizer, newspapers and cardboard as well, as coke bottle and milk bottles. **(The lids are not needed)** - Thank you.

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**Earth Hour**

Earth Hour is a movement using the power of the crowd to protect the planet.

To raise awareness for the planet On Saturday 29th March turn off your lights for an hour from 8:30 to 9:30pm. It is an opportunity to do something for our planet as well as having a conversation with your child about what they have been learning about at school.

Gillieston students are learning about the importance of looking after our planet. To support Earth Hour, we will be turning off all electrical appliances for an hour after assembly on Friday. (Turning off the lights only has an effect at night).
GILLIESTON PUBLIC SCHOOL

P & C EASTER
GUESSING COMPETITION
& SAUSAGE SIZZLE!

EASTER EGG DONATION

To assist us with prizes for the Guessing Competition we would like to ask each student to please bring a Chocolate Easter Egg or Bunny in to the school office before Friday 4th April 2014.

GUESSING COMPETITION

Gillieston Public School P & C will be hosting a Guessing Competition and Sausage Sizzle for Easter/Harmony Day on Friday 11th April 2014.

Please find attached your 10 Guessing Competition tickets to enable you to be in the draw for a selection of great Easter prizes.

Tickets are $0.50 each.

Please return all tickets by Friday 4th April 2014.

The Guessing Competition will be drawn during the Easter/Harmony Day celebrations.

SAUSAGE SIZZLE

On Easter/Harmony Day we will be holding a Sausage Sizzle. $2 sausage sandwiches and $1 drinks. No pre-orders required just bring your money along with you on the day. Canteen will not be open. However, tea, coffee and biscuits will be available for a gold coin donation. So come and join in the fun!