New Technology @ Gillo

iPads, QR code, cloud storage and multimedia programs.

We have new iPads in our school and the teachers and students love to use them for learning. The students have recently been working on Apps called Popplet Lite, ShowMe, Tellagami, GarageBand and Google Drive. In fact, to write this newsletter we used Google Drive.

Lots of classrooms have learned how to use Popplet Lite. We have made groups and chosen topics. We have enjoyed learning on Popplet Lite.

Tellagami, is an App where you make characters. You can change the size of the person and all their accessories. You can use it to get a message to someone. You can give someone a birthday greeting, holiday postcard, promo video, class project or short story.

The Google Drive App, is a good app that we used today to get this message to you. We hope you can download some of these Apps and enjoy them at home too.

Written by Jasmine, Zoe and Tyler

AN AMAZING GIFT

For those of you who know her, you would easily recognise the Wallabies’ Maddison by her beautiful long ponytail. Not anymore. During the holidays Maddison convinced her parents to take her to the hairdressers to have her gorgeous locks chopped off to her shoulders.

Maddison had seen stories on the television about children who had become ill and lost their hair due to various medical treatments. Maddison decided that she had more hair than she needed and asked her mother if she might be able to give some of it away to those less fortunate.

Reluctantly, Maddison’s parents gave in to her request, realising that this was an extremely generous offer for such a young child.

Last week the Wallabies got to see the unattached ponytail for the last time, as it is now to be packaged up and sent off to Sydney to be made into gorgeous natural wigs for those in need.

Well Done Maddison, we are all very proud of you!
Dear Parents and Caregivers,

Our teachers have been working hard during Term 1 and our recent staff development day to get the iPads up and running in the classrooms. Time has been spent to find apps that meet the needs of our new curriculum and how to best implement them to ensure that our students are receiving quality lessons involving 21st century learning. Well done! Mrs Bertwistle has also created a QR code that will enable smartphone owners to scan. It will take them directly to our school webpage. Our webpage has old and new newsletters as well as P&C and Canteen news. Our Skoolbag app is becoming more and more popular. It has information similar to our webpage but also allows reminders and alerts for events such as Maitland ANZAC Day March arrangements. Thank you to our committed and enthusiastic gardening parents who organised seed planting last week for all the children in all the classes. It was both fun and a valuable learning experience for all.

Mrs Karen Johanson - Principal

Classroom Capers

POSSUMS

This week Possums had a lot of fun learning to count from 0 to 30 then backwards 20 to 0. They used a skipping rope as a washing line and pegged their numbers in order, played number snap where they were recognising what each number looked like and made all the friends of 10.

Mia “I like to count to 100. It takes me a little bit long!”

Tylah “I like friends of 10, 5 and 5 are friends of 10”
**QUOLLS**

We are learning about living things in class time. We have watched a video about a life cycle of a frog. In art time we have been drawing insects. We have already drawn a beetle and a lady bug. Up on the wall are four life cycles. There is a life cycle of an apple, a life cycle of plant and a life cycle of a sunflower. We have planted seedlings and are watching them grow in class. When they grow, we are planting them in the vegetable garden. When they are ready we will take the vegetables home. Thank you to the parents that helped us.

*Written by Flynn and Joel*

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**BILBIES**

This week the Bilbies have been learning about Charlotte’s Web because we are also studying the book this term. Year 3 are practising the NAPLAN test for next week. Some students have been chosen to do a mind map.

We took photos and then copied and then pasted them on my Popplet. We have also been learning how to use the iPads. All the students in the class have signed up for Edmodo and have been communicating with other students in the class and teachers.

*Written by Matthew and Sebastian*

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**KOALAS**

We do groups in the morning. I like reading the best. I also like doing handwriting and it’s fun doing our sounds. We are learning “Z”. When we do numbers I like counting by 2s.

*By Claire*

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**WALLABIES**

At school we have been playing with iPads in groups on the App with the white P. The P is for Popplet.

*By Drew and Makiah*
Sport

PAUL KELLY CUP

We had two teams representing us at the Paul Kelly Cup Day on the 6th May at Max McMahon Oval at Rutherford. They played lots of games and enjoyed being part of a sporting community event. Thank you to parents and grandparents who supported the children both with transport and as cheer squad.

ACTIVE AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

This week saw the first activities being run and both days were very successful. All students had lots of fun and have developed some new skills already.

A reminder to all parents and caregivers that the children need to be picked up at school at 4:15pm.

QR CODE & SKOOLBAG APP

Use your smartphone and a QR Reader App and you can access a direct link to our school’s website.

You can also use your smartphone to download the Skoolbag App for our school that can alert when the newsletter is uploaded and provide another link to information about our school.
Our Book Fair was a great success on the last day of Term 1. It was fantastic to see so many parents and grandparents visit the library to browse and buy books at the sale. A number of books were donated to the library and funds were raised to buy books as well.

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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).
The Uniform Shop is currently opening on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 2:30 to 3pm. If you can’t make it, then leave the order form and money with your child’s teacher or at the school office. Winter uniforms may also be ordered by using the below order form with money to be paid at the time of ordering, cash only and correct money preferred.

Orders need to be in by: 14/5/14

There are also some second hand uniforms available for a gold coin donation. All donations of used uniforms are greatly appreciated. Thank you to all the families who have already donated.

Tammy Chang

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Total: ___________
From the P & C

Mother’s Day Stall
The Mother’s Day stall will be held on Thursday the 8th May and Friday the 9th May in the school hall. Classes will be coming through one at a time to purchase gifts. Gifts will range from $2 - $6. Students will be limited to purchasing 2 per child on Thursday and will then have a second chance on Friday to purchase additional gifts.
There will be a limited number of gifts for grandmothers if students are wanting to purchase for grandparents. Any volunteers that are able to assist with the stalls we are in need of helpers at the following times:

Thursday
12.00pm – 12.30pm
12.30pm – 1.00pm
1.00pm – 1.30pm
1.30pm – 2.00pm

Friday
10.30am – 11.00am
11.00am – 11.30am
11.30am - 12.00pm

Please feel free to pop in to help, have a look or just have a chat!!

From the Canteen

Fresh popped Popcorn for 50c per bag - on sale now at Lunchtimes.

If there are any parents wanting to help out in the canteen please complete the form and return it to the office (please circle):

Parent Name -

Contact Phone Number -

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Tomorrow’s P&C meeting is postponed until further notice due to some current issues.
Q. What do mermaids have on toast?  
A. Mermerlade!

Q. What did the light say when it was turned off?  
A. I’m delighted!

Q. What do you call a very popular perfume?  
A. A best-smeller!

Q. What did Mickey say when Minnie asked if he was listening?  
A. I’m all ears!

Q. How does a pig go to hospital?  
A. In a hambulance!

Did You Know?  
When lightning strikes sand, the sand melts and then hardens into a kind of glass called fulgurite.