Dear Parents and Caregivers,

There were some great speeches presented on Friday (I was told!) and the voting is now all over. Our new student leaders for 2016 will be announced at Presentation Evening. All parents, carers and grandparents are invited to attend our presentation evening on Tuesday 8 December. The doors will be open at 6pm, aiming to start at 6:30pm. Students are expected to wear full school uniform on the night. Our choirs and recorder group will be performing and there will be special guests attending and presenting many awards. I hope to see all our families celebrate with us our school’s success and achievements over the year. Class parties are currently being organised as teachers are finalising their student reports. Classes are being planned and our School Plan is being evaluated in preparation for the 2016 School Plan. There is a Parent Satisfaction survey available electronically on our Skoolbag app or you can request a paper copy from the office. We are looking for any feedback (positive and constructive) that will assist us in continuing to improve our already great school. Our P&C have a Christmas Food Appeal at the moment that will be finalised this Friday. Please support this with any Christmas, canned or dry goods.

Mrs Karen Johanson - Principal
This term the Acacias have been learning about road safety. We have focused on many aspects of how to be safe including seat belts and wearing a helmet. Here Ella was explaining what to do at the traffic lights and told us why it is important to walk and not run.

The Acacias are on the lookout for a Christmas tree for our classroom. If you happen to have a spare one that we could borrow or have, it would be much appreciated.

Over the past few weeks we have been learning to be safe on and around the roads. We have learnt that it is very important if you are eight or younger to hold an adult’s hand on the footpath, in the car park or when crossing the road. If we cannot hold our carer’s hand because they are pushing a stroller or trolley, then we should hold their arm, sleeve, bag, pram or trolley. We practised this by role playing different scenarios.
CALLISTEMONS

The Callistemon’s have filled their marble jar and it’s time to celebrate!!! We will be heading to Flip Out next Friday, the 11th of December.
“I haven’t been to flip out before. I am really excited!”
Riley J
“I think we have 711 marbles in our jar!”
Shelly G

It’s starting to look a lot like Christmas in our classroom. We loved constructing Christmas trees in Maths. We were given the dimensions of rectangles and had to cut them out using coloured paper. Then we had to glue them in ascending order based on their length. When we finished they looked like the beautiful tree in the picture.

BLUEBELLS

The Bluebells watched a video clip from ‘The Christmas Shed’

https://www.literacyshed.com/the-christmas-shed.html

After watching the video students were asked to write a news report about what they had seen.

The Five O’clock News by Connor

It is five in the morning and every house and car is wrapped in purple wrapping paper and everyone is now waking up. The children are going crazy with excitement and there is wrapping paper everywhere. This was a scene created today by Cadbury. This is an advertisement for people to eat chocolate.

Cadbury the Daily News by Jack H

A whole street of kids just woke up. It is December 25th and it is cold. The street is covered in Cadbury chocolate bar wrappers. Everything in the street is covered in it. Kids are just busting through the chocolate bar wrappers. This is Awesome and it is cool. But enough of this talk I’m going to go break some chocolate bars. Bye I hope you see me again soon ok I’m out.
WARATAHS

Every Friday the students have been enjoying technology lessons. They have been learning to make power point presentations about animals and insects. They have been publishing their stories in a word document. The students love to use the iPads for educational games. They have been making Popplets, Comic Maker and playing GarageBand.

ORCHIDS

The Orchids have been working on a technology project where they have to invent some kind of machine to get them to the top of the Faraway Tree as quickly as possible. There were no limitations given, and the creations range from an ice-cream powered aeroplane, to a hot-air balloon. We’ll be making models of our inventions at the end of the week.

TREE WORK

For the safety of everyone at school some trees have been trimmed and some removed. The mulch will be used in our gardens,
The School Student Transport Scheme

The School Student Transport Scheme (SSTS) provides eligible school students with free or subsidised travel on public transport between home and school, on trains, buses, ferries and long distance coach services.

If a student lives too close to the school to be eligible, they may still be eligible for a Term Bus Pass which provides discounted travel on buses between home and school for the whole school term. Visit transportnsw.info/school-students for details.

In areas where there is no public transport eligible NSW residents may receive a subsidy for private vehicles for transporting the student to school. Visit transportnsw.info/school-students for details.

Students with a disability who are unable to travel to and from school under the School Student Transport Scheme may be eligible for assistance under the Department of Education Assisted School Travel Program. More details can be found at transportnsw.info/school-students.

Who’s eligible?
To be eligible for the Scheme the student must be a resident of NSW, at least 4 years and 6 months of age and enrolled as one of the following:

- an infant student (K—2) regardless of the distance between their home and school
- a primary student (Years 3–6) who lives more than 1.6 km (straight line distance) from school, or 2.3 km or more by the most direct practical walking route to the nearest entry point to the school

Who needs to apply?
Most students who already have a school travel pass automatically receive a replacement pass for the following school year (sent to their school). However you will need to apply if the student is:

- Applying for a school travel pass for the first time
- Enrolling in Kindergarten
- Progressing from Year 2 to Year 3
- Progressing from Year 6 to Year 7
- Changing name, school and/or address
- Requesting an additional pass as a result of a new shared parental responsibility situation.

Applications must be made by a parent or legal guardian of the student if aged under 16 years. Students 16 years and over must complete and sign application form themselves.

Week 8 Award Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GREVILLEAS</th>
<th>WARATAHS</th>
<th>ORCHIDS</th>
<th>SILVERTAILS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph</td>
<td>Amity</td>
<td>Haydn</td>
<td>Cory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyan</td>
<td>Raya</td>
<td>Kayla</td>
<td>Jayden</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jarrod</td>
<td>Ollie</td>
<td>Makiah</td>
<td>Anna</td>
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<tr>
<th>ACACIAS</th>
<th>BLUEBELLS</th>
<th>CALLISTEMONS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brodie</td>
<td>Tyrone</td>
<td>Dylan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luke</td>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>Seth</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harrison</td>
<td>Byron</td>
<td>Noah</td>
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Welcome to the Spirit of Christmas

Gillieston Public School will be assisting the Samaritans—St Peter’s Emergency Relief in Maitland this year with a Christmas food appeal. St Peter’s Emergency Relief supplies hampers of food to needy recipients with no government funding.

How we can help

Bring donations of packaged foods such as canned and dry goods. Something with a bit of Christmas cheer would also be appreciated.

Please only supply items that have a suitable use-by date.

Items can be deposited in the canteen.

THANK YOU for the gift of giving.

Gillieston Public School P&C

Guessing Competition

Tickets are $2 each or 3 for $5

They need to be returned by 1st December

Prizes will be drawn at Presentation Evening

8th December 2015

First prize—Ipad mini valued at $368

Second prize—Gift Card $50

Third prize—Christmas Hamper valued at $30

Thank you to all the parent helpers who have worked tirelessly to keep our canteen going every day this year.

A special thank you to Mel Hibbit who has co-ordinated the canteen with food orders, rosters, money, etc.

Canteen Roster

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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Jackie Harvey</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Katrina Wynne</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jane Rossiter, Tracy</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Dani Fox</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Mel Hibbit, Rachel Kalb, Heather White, Mel Jones</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Jackie Harvey</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Katrina Wynne</td>
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<td>9</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>Mel Hibbit, Rachel Kalb, Heather White, Mel Jones</td>
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Last day of Canteen for the year!
ENJOY THE SOUNDS OF MAITLAND CITY CHOIR AND MORE, 
ON THE GREEN AT THE GILLIESTON HEIGHTS COMMUNITY CENTRE

209 CESSNOCK ROAD, GILLIESTON HEIGHTS

Saturday 12 December, 
Starting at 5.30pm

BYO KIDS, RUGS AND CHAIRS

DRINKS, SAUSAGE SIZZLE, FOOD, AND CRAFTS AVAILABLE FOR 
SALE ON THE NIGHT. THIS IS AN ALCOHOL FREE EVENT.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PRE-PURCHASE FOOD VOUCHERS, 
PLEASE VISIT OUR GILLIESTON HEIGHTS PLAYGROUP FACEBOOK PAGE

WITH THANKS TO

ARKSEA DESIGN
JENNINGS PRINT GROUP
### Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wk 9</td>
<td>30 School Banking</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4 Swimming Finishes</td>
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<td></td>
<td>School Leader Elections</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wk 10</td>
<td>7 Last School Banking for this year</td>
<td>8 Presentation Evening</td>
<td>9 Settlers Christmas Concert</td>
<td>10 Yr 6 Farewell</td>
<td>11 Reports go home Carols on the Ridge → Saturday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk 1</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 Australia Day</td>
<td>27 Teachers Return</td>
<td>28 Years 1 to 6 return</td>
<td>29 Kinder Start</td>
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### Positive Behaviour for Learning

*We are safe, respectful learners striving for personal best in a happy and friendly environment.*

Classes are now brainstorming possibilities for our next whole school reward.

### Just For Fun!

*Join us for Carols on the Ridge*