Dear Parents and Caregivers,

What a bumper edition of our newsletter with four extra pages so we can fit all our photos of the Infants Water Day and Primary Swimming Carnival.

Student Oral Presentations are coming up. We’ve made a timetable as many families will want to visit more than one class.

Mr Michael Whiting, principal of Rutherford THS will be here this Friday to talk with Year 6 students and their families. This is the perfect time to ask any of those questions about high school.

Don’t forget to register for Camp Australia—Just in case. Our OSHC starts next Monday 29th February.

Mrs Karen Johanson - Principal

LESSONS IN SAFETY

A house fire, a wading pool full of water are just some examples of dangerous situations that our Kinder, Year 1 and Year 2 students were learning about.

The fire fighters talked about having a plan for what to do if the smoke alarms go off at home. The teachers talked about the dangers of water lying around in backyards as well as the fun that can be had when playing safely in water.

Thank you to all our volunteers who supported this day.

Student Oral Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Class</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:05 to 10:35</td>
<td>Kookaburras</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:35 to 11:05</td>
<td>Penguins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:05 to 12:35</td>
<td>Owls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:35 to 1:05</td>
<td>Finches</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:05 to 1:35</td>
<td>Magpies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:05 to 2:35</td>
<td>Rosellas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:35 to 3:05</td>
<td>Eagles</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Classroom Capers

PENGUINS

The Penguins would like to say thank you to the fire brigade and to the helpers for making our Water Fun Day so much fun. We couldn’t decide what we enjoyed the most out of climbing in and out of the fire truck, having a go at shooting the high pressure hose, playing in the pools or testing our boats.

KOOKABURRAS

This week the highlight for the Kookaburras was the Infants Water Fun Day. All of our students enjoyed interacting with the fire fighters and the truck and loved having a turn at spraying the hose. Other highlights were the boat testing, treasure hunt, fireman’s run and water play activities. Overall a great day was had by all!
We had a fantastic time on our Water Fun Day, and a few of us attended the swimming carnival. In class we are learning about patterns in maths, about remembering to include all of the important details in our writing, and we had great fun working on lines as part of our Visual Art unit of work. Mrs Heath will be bringing some creatures in as part of our science unit so that we can watch them grow and change.

In Literacy, The Magpies have been reading *Fantastic Mr Fox* by Roald Dahl. As part of our unit we have been having all sorts of fun learning some Revolting Songs and Revolting Rhymes also by Roald Dahl. This Friday at assembly it is our turn to entertain you. We invite all parents and friends to the Whole School Assembly in the hall at 9:30am this Friday.
EAGLES

Some Eagles this week have been learning about peer teaching and learning. Baylee and Anna were teaching and learning about Time together.

Some Eagles have been looking at the place value of numbers. Luke and Lily-Rose created their 100 puzzle chart. They thought it was hard because some of the numbers were missing.

ROSELLAS

The Rosellas are stepping into another busy week of learning. Our year 5 and 6 students are settled into their roles as Peer Support Leaders and Co-leaders, and are appreciating the assistance from our year 4 students in completing their duties. We have been focusing on team building exercises in PDHPE and really enjoyed sharing our synchronised clapping routine with the whole school at Friday’s assembly. Did you know we only had 1 days practise?
PEER SUPPORT PROGRAM

With each week of our peer Support program, new friendships of different age groups are developing.

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PRIMARY SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Tuesday the 16th of February we were blessed with the perfect weather for our Swimming Carnival. The competition in the pool was great and saw students pushing themselves to the limit to challenge their opponents in all events. We even held a very impressive 2 heats for our individual medley, which saw students completing 4 laps in various swimming strokes. It was satisfying to see students who were red bands last year advancing to yellow bands this year, and likewise many yellow bands from last year were green bands this year. The increased confidence in students was apparent and rewarding to see. The sportsmanship and encouragement which students show to one another at our carnivals is always impressive and appreciated.

The day ran smoothly thanks to the excellent behaviour of all students, assistance from parent volunteers and staff. A big congratulations to our 2016 swimming age champions; Junior Girls – Summer R, Junior Boys – Cameron W, Senior Girls – Ainsley H, Senior Boys – Zaine G. Our swimming carnival concluded with a nail-biting race between our staff and students. While everyone tried really hard to keep up with Mrs Johanson, we were no match for her fish-like swimming abilities. Great work Mrs Johanson!

Thank you and congratulations to all students and staff for making the day a huge success.

Miss Loren Warby
DID YOU KNOW?

The state average for 2015 was 94% attendance.
Our school average in 2015 was 93%.
In week 1 this year it was 92%.
In week 2 this year it was 91%.
In week 3 this year it was 92% and in week 4 this year it was 92%.

Come on Gillo! Let’s see if we can raise our attendance percentage.

Come to school and be a Learner!
(Unless you’re sick—of course!)

MAITLAND SHOW

Thank you to the volunteers who worked with the Maitland Lions Club on the gate: Mrs Peacock, Mrs Marsh, Mrs Ison, Mrs Madden, the Dean Family and the Talty Family. This was a great way to support the Lions Club who support our school as well as raising some money for our P&C.

Congratulations to Mrs Lesley Digby (from our office) who won several prizes at this year’s Maitland Show in the Photography Competition—a hidden talent!

From the P&C

It was discussed at our last meeting that the P&C would organise an Easter Egg Raffle to be drawn at our school’s Easter Hat Parade on 24 March. You can support this by donating chocolate eggs that will be bundled into baskets for prizes. You can drop your chocolate eggs into the front office where they will be carefully guarded and stored in cool conditions.

Our canteen currently needs volunteers for Thursdays. Please contact Ashley or the school office if you can help.

Our school canteen is now OPEN every day with our regular menu. Please check Facebook or download our Skoolbag App for any changes.

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers.

Our next meeting is the AGM on the 10 March in the school Library at 9:30am.
School Opal Card Applications

All school students now need to have an Opal Card for travel to and from school on the bus.

Opal Cards are applied for online at www.transport.info/school-students

Our school has been assessed by Transport NSW as being unsafe for students to travel which means all students at Gillieston Public School are eligible to receive a bus pass.

If you receive an email stating that your application is denied, you then need to click on the link within the email to reply - stating that the school has been assessed as being unsafe for travel. This will be reviewed by Transport NSW and you will be notified by email of the outcome.

If you have any further questions please contact Transport NSW on 131500.

Week 4 Award Winners

**PENGUINS**
Isaac S
Poppi P

**KOOKABURRAS**
Charli M
Phoenix R

**FINCHES**
Ben M
Ella L
Raya T

**OWLS**
Cullen W
Makiah P

**MAGPIES**
Samuel W
Keeley R
Cooper A

**ROSELLAS**
Jesse B
Dylan O
Keishante M

**EAGLES**
Olivia
Liam
Lily-Rose
## Diary Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wk 5</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22 School Banking</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26 High School talk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk 6</td>
<td>29 School Banking</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4 Student Oral Presentations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk 7</td>
<td>7 School Banking</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9 Parent Consult Meet 3:30pm</td>
<td>10 The H Team Show P&amp;C Meeting</td>
<td>11 School Cross Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wk 8</td>
<td>14 School Banking</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Just For Fun!**

We are safe, respectful learners.

Find us on Facebook