From the Principal

Thursday 30th of August, 2018

Dear Parents and Caregivers

Thank you to all parents, caregivers and grandparents who came along to our Book Week Assembly and Parade last Friday.

It was fantastic to see so many children dressed up as their favourite book character and it was clear that all involved really appreciated the chance to show off their costume to the large crowd in attendance.

Thank you also to Gilles Street PS staff who spent significant time planning and implementing Book Week events and items for the Book Week Assembly.

NAPLAN

I am sure nearly all of you are aware of NAPLAN being a hot topic in the media this week.

We are yet to receive student NAPLAN reports and as soon as these are received they will be distributed to parents and caregivers.

When teachers receive student NAPLAN data they will be analysing this to ensure learning plans are tailored to meet the learning needs of every student.

School Council

On Monday 13th of August the Gilles Street Primary School Council unanimously voted to support a Special Resolution to amend Clause 7.3 of the School Council Constitution.

This resolution refers to membership of School Council to reflect the following:

The Council must include the principal as an ex officio member and comprise the following categories of members:

* 1 x Principal (ex-officio)
* 10 x Parent members
* 1 x Staff member elected by staff of the school
* 1 x Staff member - Intensive English Language Program elected by staff of the school
* 1 x Local Council Representative (non-voting)
* 1 x Local MP Representative (non-voting)

The main changes to the previous constitution involve an increase in Parent Members from 7 to 10 and the addition of a designated Intensive English Language Program staff representative.
From the Principal continued

A request has been sent to the Department for Education to approve the amendment of Clause 7.3 and we are expecting a response by the end of this term.

I will inform you of the next steps for School Council as soon as the Department for Education responds to School Council’s request.

School Improvement Plan
School Council also reviewed and ratified the Gilles Street Primary School Improvement Plan at the August 13th meeting.

The School Improvement Plan focuses on Wellbeing, Literacy and Numeracy with the intention of improving consistency across the school to ensure teaching, assessment, review and planning processes are designed to support the best possible learning opportunities for all students.

The process to update this plan began in 2017 and the final product is the result of working in line with Department for Education guidelines, 2015 External School Review Directions, analysis of school data that includes parent, student and staff surveys, a seven month series of teacher meetings, feedback from students and advice from Adelaide-Prospect Partnership leaders.

Gilles Street staff is currently working in Literacy, Numeracy and Wellbeing committees to plan for the implementation of this plan from the beginning of the 2019 school year. You can find a copy of the School Improvement Plan on the Gilles Street Primary School website. www.gillesstps.sa.edu.au

School Closure Day
Please remember tomorrow, Friday 31st of August, is a School Closure Day for the Royal Adelaide Show.

If you have any questions or suggestions about Gilles Street Primary School please give me a buzz or make a time to come in for a chat.

Kind regards
Michael

Wipeout Waste Tip

Fill a plastic bottle with small plastic items.
Clean plastic items that are too small to be picked off the recycling conveyor line can be contained in a plastic bottle then placed in the recycling bin.

Skin Safety Policy

Gilles Street Primary School is an approved Cancer Council SunSmart School. To maintain this endorsement, our Skin Safety Policy needs to meet certain minimum standards including ensuring that students wear a suitable Gilles Street Primary School broad brimmed or legionnaires style hat in break times in Terms 1, 3 & 4. Baseball or visor style hats do not provide acceptable sun protection.

Additionally, students need to be wearing tops that cover their shoulders at all times while at school. Please assist us in making sure that your child has their hat at school.

Visit https://orders.msp.com.au/login or scan the QR code to go to MSP Photography’s payment portal.
Community Expo
On Wednesday the 12th of September, Gilles Street PS will be hosting our first ever Community Expo.
The aim of this event is to build a connection between you, the families of our school and the wide range of services that exist in the community.
Organisations attending will cover a broad spectrum, including health, nutrition, education and community involvement and include a mixture of government, non-government, charitable and private business providers.
Freshly made coffee will be available in the Expo Hall for the cost of a gold coin donation.
Once the school day finishes, there will be activities and events in the school yard for children to take part in. Teaching staff will provide supervision during this time, to enable as many parents as possible to visit the main event.
Please mark the date on your calendar and help make this inaugural event a success!

Room 11 SA Water visit
On the 7th of August, Room 11 went to SA Water to conduct experiments and learn about the treatment of our domestic water.
We learned how to transform dirty sewerage to clean water. We also found out about chemical sciences such as ph testing (Acid, Neutral and Base). We conducted many experiments on a tiny scale using non-hazardous lab equipment.
Some experiments we performed were assessing and testing, screening and aeration as well as coagulation and flocculation.
We had lots of fun (although the experiments mostly stank!) and we are sure that, on behalf of the class, we would like to go back again!
Andrew and William.

PaCE News
Jolly Soles
The Parent and Community Engagement Committee has been extremely active of late with fundraising and building the sense of community in our school.
As you are aware, the Jolly Soles Fundraising drive finished yesterday. If you still have socks or money related to this please return them to school as matter of urgency, so that we can finalise our account with Jolly Soles.
Once this is complete, we will be able to see the benefits in new robotics equipment for students in the school.

Sports Day BBQ
As with last year, the PACE Committee will be running a sausage sizzle on Sports Day.
There will be information coming to families in the coming days to advise you of the ordering and delivery procedures that will be in place this year to allow all members of the school community to access their sausages efficiently.
Sports Corner
Gilles Street Primary School Sports Day will be held on Friday 14th of September. The PACE Committee will once again be running a BBQ - information regarding this will be sent home in the coming days.
Parent of the school, Charlie Nichols and his Mean Green Coffee Machine will also be in attendance serving hot drinks and sweet treats.

Scores for the Hockey and Netball teams were:
Minkey A1 6 - 2 Minkey A2
Minkey B 1 - 8

Netball
GSPS Yr 3/4 Dolphins won 15 - 11
GSPS Yr 3/4 Joeys drew 14 all
GSPS Yr 5/6 Storm Puppies lost 5 - 21
GSPS Yr 5/6 Warriors won 32 - 4
GSPS Yr 6/7 Raptors won 24 - 4
GSPS Yr 6/7 Sapphires lost 15 - 32

Water Safety Lessons
Next week will see all students from reception to year 5 taking part in water safety lessons at Thebarton Aquatic Centre. Please ensure that you have returned the consent and health care forms by tomorrow.
For the week, students will need bathers and a towel as well as their school clothes to change into after the lesson.

Frank’s Lab on Legs
Earlier this term, students from years 4 - 7 had the opportunity to take part in a 90 minute science incursion hosted by Frank Holmes. Frank is a former scientist with the CSIRO who now provides students around Adelaide with the opportunity to take part in a range of experiments, using equipment that is not commonly found in primary schools.
Students from Gilles Street took part in sessions covering the physical or chemical science strands of the curriculum, depending on what their class had been, or were about to investigate.
Students moved around a series of 6 experiments using scientific techniques to come to justifiable conclusions.