



# Gilles Street Primary School

## 2015 Newsletters

In 2015 the newsletter will only be available digitally via our webpage (scan the QR code) or via email by subscription. In the event you require a paper copy/ies please advise the classroom teacher of your eldest child ASAP. Thank you for supporting our efforts to reduce paper.



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Deputy Principal: Carol West

Assistant Principal: Ginny Pryor

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Issue 2 Term 1

## Coming up...

### Fri Feb 27

Assembly - Hosted by Room 4 9:15 in the hall

Circle of Friends 10:00 in the library

### Sun Feb 22

Bunnings Mile End BBQ Fundraiser

### Mon Mar 2

School Council AGM

### SWIMMING WEEKS

Mon Mar 2 - Fri Mar 13

February 13th 2015

## From the Principal

Thank you to all of the parents and staff who attended **Acquaintance Night** on Wednesday. It was a wonderful opportunity for you to hear, in more detail, some of the learning programs across the school and to clarify any areas. The picnic in the park was a wonderful experience with our community coming together over an array of food and great company.

In the next few weeks you will receive the **First Impression Reports** for mainstream students and **Settling In** reports for the Intensive English Language Centre students. These reports are designed to give a snapshot as to how your child is settling into school and their behavioural and emotional wellbeing. This report is the first of our formal reporting processes. These processes are outlined in the Information Handbook. You are, of course, welcome and encouraged to keep in close contact with your child's teacher if you have any questions or concerns. You can request meetings and of

course come in, when you can, to see what your child's been doing. **Close partnerships between home and school lead to greater engagement and achievement.**

At Acquaintance Night, the topic of homework was discussed in many classrooms. **Homework** is an issue that creates much debate amongst the community. Debate ranges from, home being a place of rest and family bonding & that after school activities can occupy much time and focus on developing the whole child with homework, being repetitive learning, serving no real purpose. On the other hand, beliefs that homework reinforces skills, allows parents to gauge how their children are travelling, promote familiarity with the content and develop good habits e.g. reading together, time management etc., are also widely held. Our guidelines on homework are in our parent information booklet which is available on our website [www.gillesstps.sa.edu.au](http://www.gillesstps.sa.edu.au)

**Whole-School-Publications**

If you have any concerns about homework please see your child's teacher.



**The Bunnings BBQ** is fast approaching and I would like more assistance for the BBQ on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> February at the Mile End store. Please email me if you can help. Thank you to the people who have already offered. I have your details and will be in contact shortly.

**The Annual General Meeting** will be held on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6.30 in the library. The Annual Report will be presented and new council elected. See page 3 for the nomination form if you are considering being part of the council for 2015-2016. Responsibilities for council members include meetings during the school year (usually two per term), discussion of school policies and direction, provision of advice to staff on school matters and contributing to budget and site plans. We hope to see many of you on the night.

**Deb O'Neill**

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Gilles Street  
Primary School

**"The DECD  
Swimming and  
Aquatics  
program is a  
curriculum  
based  
program"**

## Swimming Week

In Weeks 6 and 7, students in R-7 classes are involved in a week long swimming program at the Unley Swimming Centre (Ethel St. Forestville). Years 1-7 in Week 6 and Reception and R/I classes in Week 7.

Information and consents will be coming home next week.



Please ensure that you return all consents and medical information for your child/ren and follow these guidelines -

The DECD Swimming and Aquatics program is a curriculum based program and as such the direct relationship is between the instructors and the school.

If you are attending please see your child's teacher for a parent badge. Please direct any questions in regards to the program to the classroom teacher.

**Photography by parents is**

**not allowed** given the difficulty in ensuring other children are not identifiable in their photos.

Please ensure students come prepared with a CLEARLY NAMED hat, bathers (one piece), rashie/t-shirt, towel and sunscreen each day. Your child's teacher will inform you of times your child will be at the pool.

If you have any questions please contact Carol West on 8223 5184.

## Grounds Development

You will have noticed that the workers on the block 'next door' have been very busy over the last two weeks. We are expecting that it won't be too long until the planned courts are laid and finishing touches completed. You can see the court layout to the right.

We also have a development plan in train for other areas of



Gilles Street

the yard. Your ideas are most welcome and can be added to our Vision Board located outside the back door of the Front Office.

We will be continuing to fund-raise over the year with the first major event at the BUNNINGS BBQ MILE END on SUNDAY FEB 22.

Please contact Deb O'Neill if you can volunteer some time at the BBQ or come on down and grab a snag.

## Material and Services Charges

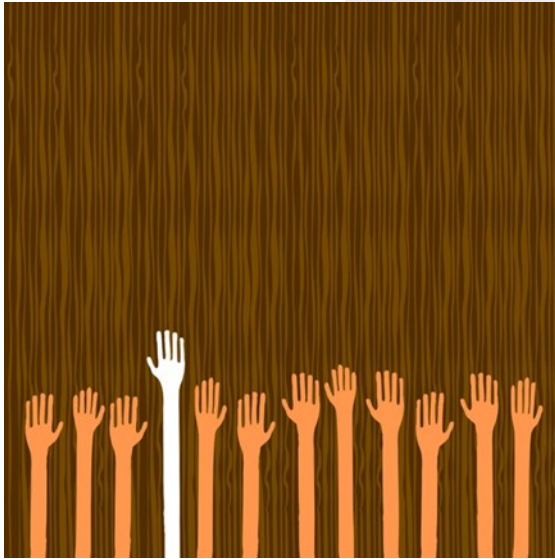
### Materials & Services Fees

Next week your child will be bringing home a pack containing your statement and 2015 invoice for Materials & Services. Also enclosed will be a 2015 School Card application. If you are eligible for School Card, please complete the form and return it to the front office as soon as possible. This year we will be offering direct debit as a payment option to families. This information and application form will also be enclosed.

Once you have received your packs, if you have any questions, please contact Tracey in the finance office. Please finalise all outstanding debt from previous years **urgently**.

Thanks for your cooperation - Tracey Aberlé, Finance Manager

# YOUR SCHOOL COUNCIL NEEDS YOU!!



PLEASE HELP! VOLUNTEER TO BE A MEMBER OF THE SCHOOL COUNCIL in 2015

We need enthusiastic and dedicated members of our school community to be part of our dynamic council.

- Find out what's going on.
- Be involved in educational decision making.
- Get to know the staff and community.

How to join.....

1) fill in the nomination form or contact the school and leave your details with Rod at front desk.

or

2) attend the AGM on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March at 6.30pm in the library.

Drinks and nibbles will be provided at the meeting so come along and meet your council.

*“seek the wisdom of the ages but look at the world through the eyes of a child”*

*Ron Wild*



## SCHOOL COUNCIL NOMINATION FORM.

2015/ 2016

I \_\_\_\_\_

**wish to nominate as a member of Gilles Street Primary School Council for the 2015/2016 years** (most council members serve for a 2 year period, however those wishing to only serve 1 year are also welcome to nominate)

or

**I do not wish to nominate for school council but would like to assist at other times during the year**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Best Contact Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_

Child/ Children's' names and class

\_\_\_\_\_

For more information, visit

<http://www.gillesstps.sa.edu.au/Council>



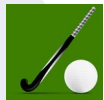
## Circle of Friends

The Circle of Friends is an opportunity to meet other parents in the GSPS community.

The 'Circle of Friends' group usually meet twice a term after whole school assemblies on Fridays. Parents meet over Morning Tea to either have an informal chat, plan a community event or to listen to a guest speaker.

The first meeting for 2015 is on Friday 27 February at 10:00 am in the library.

For more information please contact Ginny Pryor on 8223 5184 or email [gabby.pryor894@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:gabby.pryor894@schools.sa.edu.au)



## Hockey

Interested in playing Hockey? **Forestville Hockey Club**, located at the Goodwood Oval complex, Fairfax St, Millswood is running Come and Try and skill development for primary school children.

For children born in 2004 or later the sessions will run for 4 weeks (excluding March long weekend) commencing on Sunday February 15th from 9am to 11am at the club. Bring your own mouthguard (or buy one from us for \$7) and shin pads (some for sale at \$10). Sticks can be borrowed from the club.

For children born before 2004 the sessions will run for 4 weeks commencing on Wednesday Feb 18th from 6 to 8 pm at the CBC pitch, upstairs over Ifould St, Adelaide. Mouthguards and shin pads required, someone will lend you a stick if you don't have one. For further information email [juniors@fhc.com.au](mailto:juniors@fhc.com.au) or contact Julie Mills on 0402 250 511.

## BRAVE

**BRAVE Self-Help** is an online program for the prevention, early intervention and treatment of anxiety in children and young people.

In 2014, for the first time, **BRAVE Self-Help** will be available to all young people and children living in Australia between 8 and 17 years and their parents.



For more information, or to access the program, please visit [www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au](http://www.brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au)  
You can also find us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/braveforanxiety](http://www.facebook.com/braveforanxiety)

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<https://brave4you.psy.uq.edu.au/child-program>



## Separation Anxiety - Tips for Goodbyes



Saying goodbye and separating from a clinging child can be difficult. We have found some tips on how to ease the separation anxiety.

**When it's time to go, say good-bye to your child.** Never sneak out. As tempting as it may be, leaving without saying good-bye to your child risks their trust in you. Tell your child when you are going - "I need to leave at 9.15 am, that is when the big hand is on the 3". Then leave at exactly 9.15 am.

**Once you say good-bye, leave promptly.** A long farewell scene may reinforce a child's sense that school is a

bad place. We also want to limit the overall impact of distressed students on the wellbeing of the whole class.

**Express your ease with leaving.** Some parents wave from outside the classroom window or make a funny good-bye face.

**Don't linger.** The longer you stay, the harder it is. But **do let your child know that you'll be there to pick them up.**

Children are generally fine after parents have the left the room. There may be a few odd sniffles but once they get into the routines of the day they are happy and altogether too busy with learning to make much of a fuss.