



Gilles Street Primary School



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2014 Newsletters

From Week 3, 2014, 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 before Wednesday 12th February 2014. Thank you for supporting our efforts to reduce paper.



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Issue 1, 2014

29th January 2014

Coming Events:

- **Acquaintance Night**
Wed - 5 February
- **Safer Internet Day**
Tue - 11th February
- **Whole School Assembly**
Fri - 14th February
- **Whole School Assembly**
Fri - 28th February
- **Circle of Friends**
Fri - 28th February

From the Principal

Welcome Back

I would like to welcome everyone back for what I am sure will be a wonderful year. We have started very smoothly, albeit a very hot one, kicking off with nearly a week of hot weather policy. Staff and students have quickly settled back in to school life, catching up with friends after the break. I would especially like to welcome our new students and their families starting at Gilles Street this year, including the new reception students who had their first day at school on Tuesday. This year is the first of our single entry intake where students who turn 5 before the 1st of May start school at the beginning of the year, those born after will commence school in 2015.

We have been very fortunate to maintain, and reappoint a wonderful staff team. We welcome Rachael Tennant, who is our new reception teacher, all the way from Coober Pedy. I would also like to welcome back Vivian Scott who has returned from her adventures in Colorado and our returning contract teachers Señorita Jane Glasson who will teach Spanish R-7, Daphne Orphanou who will be teaching 3 days a week with Meagan Hart, Gabby Aujard - year 6/7 IELC, and Emma Kelly - Reception IELC.

You may have also noticed that we have reorganised and redecorated our front office including making the finance office more accessible to parents wanting to make payments. It has certainly made an impact. Unfortunately there have been some unavoidable delays to the development of the land adjacent to the school. We were expecting it ready by the time we returned to school, however this has not happened and the hot weather has delayed it even further. Fingers crossed it will be on track again shortly.

School Day Changes

We have made changes to the school day in order to meet the requirements of the AEU/DECD Enterprise Bargaining Agreements. As a result our days will begin 5 minutes later at 8.55 am with recess extended by 10 minutes, now from 11.00 am - 11.30 am. We have also changed our park play arrangements, with park play happening at recess and lunch. This has been staggered across the school with 1/3 of the students at the park during each break. Your class teacher will inform you on which days your child goes to the park.

Acquaintance Night

We will be holding our annual Acquaintance Night on Wednesday 5th February. We will be combining the 'meet the teachers' with a community based family picnic in the park, with a multicultural feel that reflects our diverse community. Mainstream teachers will run a classroom information session in their rooms from 5.00pm until 6.00pm and IELC parents in the library at 5:15 pm. This will be followed by the whole school picnic in Glover playground from 6.00pm until 7.00pm. Class session times have been sent home this week, please see your child's teacher if you require further information.

AGM

We will be holding our Annual General Meeting on Monday 24th February and nomination forms for the council will be sent home shortly. The new council is elected at the Annual General Meeting and usually meets once a term. Being on the council is a wonderful opportunity to support the school and be involved in setting directions for the future at Gilles Street.

Deb O'Neill

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Material & Services

Invoices

Invoices for Materials & Services Charges will be posted home next week.

There are a number of methods of payment; cash, credit card, Bizgate (via our website), cheque and bank transfer. Please be mindful to use your family code and invoice number when paying by bank transfer.

School fees are due in full by the end of Term 1. If you are unable to pay your school fees in full by the due date, please contact me to work out a suitable time payment arrangement.

School Card applications will be sent out with the invoices. If you are eligible for school card, please complete the form and return it to the front office as soon as possible.

Thanks - Christina Cannon, Finance Manager

Riding in the School Yard

Just a reminder that bikes and scooters are not to be ridden in the school yard, this includes the staff car park as this area is used in the afternoons for access for the IELP buses and students. Please alight at the gates and walk your bike through the grounds.



Skin Protection Policy/Sun Smart School

It may be timely to remind the community about our skin protection policy. At GSPS we are a Sun Smart school and aim to minimise the risk of skin damage. The Cancer Council SA advises people to protect their skin at times when the ultraviolet (UV) radiation level is 3 or above—this is when it is strong enough to cause damage to unprotected skin. For much of South Australia, UV radiation levels are 3 and above every day from September to April and it is during these months that sun protection is necessary.

The aims of the Gilles Street Primary School Skin Protection Policy are to promote positive attitudes towards skin protection, healthy lifestyle practises which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer, personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection and an awareness of the need for environmental changes in our school to reduce the level of exposure to the sun.

The policy is implemented from the 1st September to 30th April although outside of this time care is also taken when the ultraviolet radiation level is 3 (moderate) and above. The purpose of having a policy is to ensure that all members of our community are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful rays of the sun. During times of extreme heat and UV readings students remain inside for most of the day and teachers modify the activities undertaken. We do not provide or apply sunscreen however we do encourage students to bring their own and we will remind them to use it before breaks. We enforce a 'no hat no play' policy where children without a hat are asked to sit in the shade during play times. If excursions are planned a risk assessment is undertaken and activities modified if required. A copy of the policy is available on request.

Food Allergy Awareness Guidelines

The food allergy awareness guidelines have been created in an attempt to reduce the potential risk for members of our community who may suffer from food allergies. The school acknowledges that due to food processing practices it is impractical to eliminate nuts or nuts products entirely from an environment where there is food. Thus we are a 'Food Allergy Aware' school. At various times a class teacher may ask their class to be more specific due to the needs of a child in the class. As a general rule we ask all members of the community to be aware of guidelines and minimise the risks. The full guidelines can be found on our website at the following link

<http://www.gillesstps.sa.edu.au/Whole-School-Publications>



Some of the key guidelines include -

- Staff, parents and caregivers are requested to be aware of the food they send to school that contain nuts (especially peanuts).
- Food should not be supplied to children with anaphylaxis unless pre-arranged and agreed with the family.
- Risk assessments will be conducted if any fundraising activities involve food.
- Food is not given as a reward/treat.
- Staff are to supervise eating at lunch time.
- Students will be encouraged **NOT** to share food unless a shared lunch has been arranged and parents are informed.
- Students bringing food that contains nuts or nut products may be asked to eat away from any other students and to wash their hands before going to play.
- School staff will participate in training, involving understanding and dealing with anaphylaxis (severe allergic reactions) as the need arises.

Class teachers will inform their students of these guidelines.

Student Voice

SRC - meets this term on Fridays of even weeks from (9:00 am- 9:40 am)

Digital Leaders Group - stay tuned for more details on this exciting program later this term



Circle of Friends

Circle of Friends is an opportunity for all parents/caregivers to meet and form connections and friendships. The group meets after a Friday assembly twice per term. Guest speakers are sometimes invited; the group may plan community events or just have coffee and a chat. The meetings this term are on the 28th of February and 28th of March. Our aim is that this group will be parent run with support from the school. All welcome.

Lunch-Time Clubs

Film Club with Helen - Wednesdays > Years 4,5,6,7

Art Club with Christine - Thursdays > Years 6,7

Fridays > Years 3,4,5

TERM I	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 1	27.1 Australia Day Holiday	28.1 School begins for students	29.1 Parent meetings JP/IB	30.1	31.2 Assembly
Week 2	3.2	4.2	5.2 ACQUAINT- ANCE NIGHT	6.2	7.2 SRC
Week 3	10.2 School Council	11.2 Safer Internet Day	12.2	13.2	14.2 Assembly
Week 4	17.2 Kids Matter	18.2 Cricket Super Clinic Rooms 1,2,3,11,13,14,19	19.2	20.2	21.2 SRC
Week 5	24.2 Annual General meeting 6.30pm	25.2	26.2	27.2	28.2 Assembly Circle of Friends
Week 6 SWIMMING WEEK MS 1 st Im- pression re- port	3.3	4.3 Student Leader- ship Training	5.3 Student Leader- ship Training	6.3	7.3 SRC
Week 7	10.3 Adelaide Cup	11.3	12.3	13.3	14.3 Assembly
Week 8 EALD Levels collection	17.3 Kids Matter	18.3	19.3	20.3	21.3 SRC Harmony Day
Week 9 IELC Exit Interviews	24.3	25.3	26.3 Naplan work- shop Narrative	27.3	28.3 Assembly Circle of Friends
Week 10 IELC Exit Interviews	31.3	1.4	2.4	3.4	4.4 SRC
Week 11 IELC T2 In- terviews Reception SEA docu- ments	7.4	8.4 Aquatics 6/7 At West Lakes	9.4	10.4	11.4 Assembly

Community Notices

From the Community Development Officer: Kat Ochan



**Children's
Centre**

for Early Childhood
Development and Parenting



Government
of South Australia

PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Presented by Sue Kent from Child and Family Health Service

"Blowing Away the myths about fussy eaters"

In this session Sue will explore How to create a healthy attitude towards food and make meal times a happy, sociable arena

Topics explored will include:

- First foods - what to offer and when
- Fresh, home cooked food in our fast pace world, is it possible?
- Empowering children to make healthy choices

When: March 19th 5.45-7.15

Where: Sturt Street Community School Resource Centre 221-239 Sturt Street

To book please contact Kat Ochan; 0417142556, 82216093

Katrina.ochan@sa.gov.au (Crèche available, bookings essential)

Let's Have Music



An interactive music group for
parents and children 0-4

Where: The Cottage - 12 O'Brien St

**When: Every second Thursday
starting from the 30th January 2014.
10am-11am.**

Play group

0-4 year olds,
mums, dads and carers

Where: The Cottage - 12 O'Brien St

**When: Every second Monday
starting from the 3rd February
2014. 1pm-3pm**



Mark Le Messurier

Counsellor, Mentor and Educator
Parent Coach

Author of PARENTING TOUGH KIDS, TEACHING TOUGH KIDS and RAISING BEAUT KIDS

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PARENT INFORMATION SESSION

Presented by Mark Le Messurier

Author of: *Parenting Tough Kids, Teaching Tough kids and Raising Beaut Kids*

"A CHECKLIST, what are you setting your kids up for?"

Unfortunately, there's not a 'universal rule' to guarantee that parents consistently parent well, and kids turn out well. The truth is that to end up feeling optimistic and confident, children need their parents to sort out what really matters, and a way of life that sets them up for advantage.

During this workshop Mark challenges you to compare your family and parenting priorities with his CHECKLIST. Enjoy the opportunity to laugh, reflect, share and compare without feeling judged. As Mark says, "you are what will make the greatest difference for your child, and it's in what you think, what you say and what you do. There's no such thing as perfect parents, perfect children or perfect families, but even in the most limiting circumstance, parents who value the relationship they have with their children make huge differences."

Date: April 2nd

Time: 5.45-7.15pm

Where: Sturt Street Community School 221-239 Sturt Street

Please book with Kat Ochan, 0417142556, 82216093

Katrina.ochan@sa.gov.au Crèche available, bookings essential