Dear Parents and Caregivers

It’s hard to believe we have already completed three weeks of the 2019 school year! I have been impressed with the positive start Gilles Street students have made to their learning and the effective ways they are working with each other in class and at play times.

Our school yard is a friendly and inclusive place to be and the manner in which our senior students have stepped up to take a more significant leadership role around the school has been super impressive.

Gilles Street staff has worked extremely hard throughout the early weeks of term to ensure all students have the best possible foundation for a successful school year. Thank you to parents and caregivers who attended Tuesday night’s Acquaintance Night when teachers provided an outline of teaching and learning, class routines, behaviour expectations and school/home communication.

Teacher Professional Development

Teachers have already participated in significant professional development this year including Words Their Way and Growing with Gratitude. This will continue during this Friday’s Pupil Free day when teachers engage in whole school mathematics professional development in line with our school Numeracy Agreement.

Teachers have also started their Professional Learning Community process and groups of teachers are engaged in ongoing professional development programs for writing, maths and spelling. These programs include Writing Plus, Thinking Maths and ongoing Words Their Way learning to ensure Gilles Street students have access to the best possible learning and welling opportunities.

Acquaintance Night

Thank you to all families who came along to Acquaintance Night on Tuesday. It was fantastic to see you all taking such an active interest in your child’s learning and to see our school community mixing at the re-located, undercover picnic!

If you were unable to attend Tuesday’s Acquaintance night and would like to receive class information please contact your child’s teachers and request this information is sent to you.

School Council Annual General Meeting

As announced in week one our School Council Annual General
Meeting will be held in the school library on Monday 18th of February at 6:00pm. All parents and caregivers are welcome to attend.

If you would like to nominate for School Council in 2019 please submit your nomination form to the front office by midday on Monday 18th February.

PaCE Movie Night - Postponed

The Parent and Community Engagement Committee have had to postpone the Movie Night scheduled for Friday 29/3.

But don’t worry, as I know that PaCE have plenty of other activities planned for 2019. Keep an eye out on FlexiBuzz and the newsletter for upcoming events.

If you have any questions regarding Gilles Street Primary School please do not hesitate to contact us at school.

Have a great week!

Kind regards

Michael

School Fees Reminder

Unless you have made a payment arrangement with the Finance Office, or have submitted an application for School Card, all Materials & Services Fees (M & S) are due in full by the end of Term 1.

Our preferred method of payment is via the Qkr! mobile app or through the link on FlexiBuzz.

Other payment options are cash, credit card, or online BPOINT. (Please note changes in office hours below.)

Invoices for your family will be sent home by the end of this week via email. If you don’t receive yours, please see Dil in the Office.

School Card

Application for School Card 2019 open now. Copies of forms are available from the front office, online at www.sa.gov.au, or by scanning the QR code. If you have children attending other schools, please remember you will need to complete a form for each school. Clarification can be sought here at school from Dil or at DECD.Schoolcard@sa.gov.au

Commitment to Pay for School Activities

All school activities requiring payment will be accompanied by a Commitment to Pay form. We appreciate this being completed as your intention to meet the cost of the activity. All payments need to be received prior to the activity for your child to participate. If you are experiencing financial difficulty please speak with Dil in the Finance Office or Michael Bawden, Principal.

Office Hours for Payments

Office hours for school payments are between 8.30 - 9.30 am and 2.30 - 3.30 pm. Online payments can be made at any time. Please note that Qkr! is our preferred payment method.

If you require more information on Qkr! Please see Dil or access the information from the Online Payments section of our website.

Finance Office Information

Have you registered for FlexiBuzz?

FlexiBuzz is our main form of communication with parents and families so please take the time to sign up, join Gilles Street Primary School and add relevant boxes to your profile.

If you have any questions or require help please contact Mark Tucker, Assistant Principal - Teaching and Learning, at mark.tucker238@schools.sa.edu.au or the school phone on 8223 5184.
Late last year we received the fantastic news that we had won a Public Arts Grant from the Adelaide City Council to paint a major mural on our blue wall. We have also been supported by the Adelaide Fringe Street Art Explosion Program and our school community.

We have begun working with lead artist, Mike Makatron on ideas that represent our school’s unique cultural diversity. Mike will also be collaborating with Adelaide-based Aboriginal artist, Shane Kookaburra as a way to pay respect to the original custodians of the land.

Students have an opportunity to contribute to this exciting project by creating pieces that represent their cultural heritage and/or our school’s diversity. We have encouraged children to discuss their ideas at home so that families are able to help students connect with their cultural heritage. Our mural artists will visit the school at the end of Week 6 to view the students’ work and select ideas which best link with the concept. The mural will be completed by Harmony Week (Week 8).

At 10am on Tuesday 19th March we will host a special ceremony to celebrate the artists’ hard work, our students’ contribution to mural ideas and our wonderfully multicultural school community.

On this day, students will be encouraged to wear their traditional/cultural dress or the Harmony Day colour orange. We will have a special Art Exhibition to display all of the students’ wonderful work as well as performances from the GSPS Taiko drummers and other student groups.

We thank all families for their continued support in this exciting project and urge you to save Tuesday 19th of March in your diary!

Señorita Alicia and Val

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Hi, we’re the Gilles Greens, the brand new Gilles Streets Environmental group. This term we hope to achieve further environmental awareness in our school community. We have some big plans for this term, our main focus being a bee’s wax wrap stall later on in the term - further information later in the term.

Bees wax wraps are a more sustainable form of plastic sandwich wrap, they do not impact the taste of your food at all. They are perfect for keeping sandwiches and other food fresh.

Listen out for more information soon!

Thanks Willow, Olivia, Esther, Bella, Issey, Robert & Lyla (Gilles Greens)
Physical forces Workshop

On Monday the 4th of February, Mobile Science Education came to our school to present a workshop about physical forces and simple machines.

The year 6/7 students learned Newton’s 2nd law: Force = Mass x Acceleration.

We also discovered Newton’s 3rd law, ‘For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction’ (weak and strong interactions magnetism and gravity).

Students explored how the forces help with simple machines that can be used every day. One of those machines was a pulley system, where we used weights to lift things without a lot of effort. Students were asked to predict outcomes and record results.

Niamh, Madeleine & Olivia - Room 12