23rd September 2015

From the principal

**WWI Commemoration Ceremony**

On Tuesday 20th October 2015 at 2pm in the Max Green Hall we will commemorate World War I. The Governor of South Australia, His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AO and his wife Mrs Lan Le will be in attendance to unveil the refurbished Honour Board and two new boards. They will then join staff, school councillors and official guests for afternoon tea in the School Library. See page 2 for further information on the afternoon’s commemoration ceremony.

**PAT Testing**

Students from Gilles Street mainstream classes have been taking the PAT Maths and Comprehension testing over the past few weeks. This gives us valuable information on individual student achievements as well as identifying school trends matched against normed assessments. Early next term we will also be conducting our TIEL Compass survey which will collect perception data from students about their learning in mathematics. This provides us with a valuable picture of teaching and learning at Gilles Street.

Term 4 is incredibly busy with many celebrations and events that celebrate another successful year. The **FUN RUN** will be held on Friday, October 23rd, and is a major fundraiser for the school. This year all monies raised will contribute towards the grounds developments which will begin during the summer holidays. Please encourage family and friends to donate or sponsor the run. All parents and family members are welcome to attend and even run if they are feeling particularly energetic.

**The End of Year Concert** will be on Thursday, November 26th. This year’s performance is titled ‘The Grand Slam’ and will take the audience on a journey through the Asia Pacific. In a shift from previous years we will be using an adaptation of a musical produced by Arts Nation Co and aligned to the Australian Curriculum History and Social Sciences learning area.

**Open Council Meeting on Monday, November 2nd.**

There will be an open school council meeting on Monday 2nd of November to discuss school fees. Members of the community are invited to attend. The fee structure will be sent out early next term.

We would also like to thank Chloe Ryan for her work in Room 6 this term while Cathy Bawden has been on long service leave travelling through the USA and Canada.

We wish all members of our school community a safe and restful holiday and will see you on Monday, October 12th.

Deb O’Neill
World War I Commemoration Ceremony

On Tuesday 20th October 2015 at 2pm in the Max Green Hall we will commemorate World War I. The Governor of South Australia, His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AO and his wife Mrs Lan Le will be in attendance to unveil the refurbished Honour Board and two new boards. They will then join staff, school councillors and official guests for afternoon tea in the school Library.

The original Honour Board had 135 students and staff who had enlisted and has hung proudly in the school foyer for many years. The board was unveiled in 1917 on November 24th by Lady Galway, wife of the then Governor of South Australia. With Federal Government funding support, the original Honour Board has been restored and two new boards produced.

Hours of voluntary research undertaken by Paulene Thomas, with support from Alison Hicks, has found over 500 students and staff being identified as having served, many with great distinction and a significant proportion paying the ultimate sacrifice. These soldiers served in more than 20 different Australian Imperial Forces Battalions; Pioneers, Machine Gun, Field Artillery and Cyclist Companies, Signals, Field Ambulance, Light Horse, Camel Corps, Navy and Flying Corps.

October 20th 1914 is a significant date. On this day a group of Gilles Street soldiers departed from Port Adelaide on the troop ship Ascanius destined for Egypt.

Year 7 students have been researching some of the soldiers who were on the original Honour Board and who lived in and around Gilles Street. They are telling their stories in a collage. These will be on display on the day and then on display in the Library after the event. The Honour Board will be rehung in the foyer with the two new boards.

The children will make poppies to place in baskets at the end of the ceremony. The RSL will supply all the children with a poppy to wear on the day. The Australian Army is supplying a Bugler and Piper for the occasion. We thank them both very much for their support. We will encourage any student to wear their relative’s medals on their right hand side, as a measure of respect, for the formal ceremony. After the ceremony we will have some RSL donation tins around the school to support the RSL and their work.

Seed Adventures

Michael Yeo, the DECD Education Manager for the Adelaide Botanical Gardens thanks GSPS for their involvement in the Veronica Derwentiana project we have been involved in over the last 2 years... “what a wonderful morning it was on Tuesday with the students from Gilles Street.”

“The enthusiasm and interest they showed was something that makes old people like me think there is a chance for the future and we are moving in the right direction.”

“The students understood what they were doing, why and were good at it”. Thanks were extended to Angela and Val - the teachers of Room 4 and Room 11 students. Josh, the trainee and Adelaide City Council were also acknowledged.
Year 6/7 Market Day

Nick Muxlow and I could not be more proud of the students in Rooms 12 and 13. Students worked diligently in planning and preparing their market stalls over seven weeks. The presentation of their goods and service was excellent. Their logos and business names showed thought and their packaging of goods was exceptional. The level of service stalls holders provided was of a high quality.

The success of this experience would not have been as rich without the support of parents behind the scene, and the school community in supporting the Market Day lunch session and for this we thank you all. Your feedback, comments and words of encouragement go a long way. This has truly been a rich learning experience for both students, Nick and myself.

In addition we would like to thank Judy Fox teaching during Christine Lawrence’s leave, to finish business logos and Alicia Alfaro for working on the packaging as part of this interdisciplinary unit of work.

To conclude the unit, students presented a simple profit and loss statement for their business and wrote an extensive reflection on their experiences.

All in all a successful learning adventure raising over $2,000- for graduation and Big Day Out in Term 4.

Market Day was one of the diamond days of teaching and I am glad our parents and school community shared it with us.

Deb McMahon

Sports Day Wrap

This year, Sports Day fell on a glorious spring day. All teams participated with enthusiasm and sportsmanship. Congratulations go to ‘Adelaide’ who are this year’s champion team. The final tally of points showed a very close competition between the houses. Here are the final scores achieved on the day...

Adelaide 649 Light 646 Kaurna 644 Gilles 632

2015 Fun Run

This year’s Fun Run will take place on Friday October 23. The Fun Run is one of our school’s major fund-raising events for 2015. The event is run over a course in the parklands. JP children run laps around Glover Playground for approximately 30 minutes and the MP/UP children will run laps around the creek area for approximately 45 minutes.

Healthy snacks of fruit will be offered to children when they finish their run.

Please send children to school wearing sneakers, shorts & hats. They will also need a water bottle. Students are also encouraged to wear their Sports Team colours (Adelaide - Green, Light - Red, Kaurna - Yellow and Gilles - Blue).

We are asking families and friends to sponsor children for the number of laps completed or make a donation to the school. Money raised will help support our school’s grounds development.

Any help from parents/caregivers on the day would be much appreciated. Please contact the school if you can assist.
MINDFULNESS INFORMATION EVENING

Over 30 years of research have proven that mindfulness increases attention and focus; reduces stress, anxiety, and depression and increases well-being in adults. More recently evidence is also building on similar benefits for children and young adults. Due to such wonderful research outcomes mindfulness is being increasingly used by professional athletes, artists, musicians, business people and emergency workers.

Come along to a 90 minute information session on mindfulness. Bring any questions you may have and bring an open mind to give some basic mindfulness practices a try for yourself. As parents, we can have a positive impact on our child’s wellbeing by starting with improving our own. Crèche services are available.

**Session Date:** Monday 26th October 2015

**Session Time:** 7:00PM – 8:30PM

**Location:** Gilles Street Primary School

To register your interest please email ness0012@flinders.edu.au or ha0043@flinders.edu.au with the following information or return the form to your child’s teacher.

Registration of Interest

Name: ____________________________

Number of children needing crèche services: _________________________

If an interpreter is required: Yes / No If yes, which language: ______________________________