At this time of the year we do farewell a number of staff members however this year we are fortunate enough to be retaining a large number too. Of course we need to farewell Carol West and Christine Lawrence who will both be retiring at the end of this year. We have been so fortunate to have Carol's expertise and knowledge at Gilles Street for the past 7 years. She has lead the Kids Matter Framework Implementation as well as supporting our Inclusion and Wellbeing portfolios. Christine's artistic talents have certainly been an inspiration to all of the students and staff at Gilles Street. Her legacy of the murals will certainly live on for many years to come.

We also need to farewell Nick Muxlow, Nick will be pursuing his own business as a sports coach and trainer. We wish him all the best.

We would like to thank Emma Kelly who has won a position in the IELC at Kilkenny. Emma has worked here for many years in the IELC and as an intervention teacher. We wish her all the best.

This week we thanked our volunteers with a morning tea and acknowledged two outstanding people who have given so much of their time to help and support staff and students at Gilles Street. Pat Hudson has been a familiar face around the school since her grandchildren attended 14 years ago. She helps Christine in the art room every Tuesday and much of the framed art work can be accredited to her.

Susana Mical has spent the past 4 years helping in the library since arriving from America with her family and son Peter. These two volunteers are our inaugural recipients of the Minister for Education and Child Development Volunteering award.

We would also like to congratulate Gyllian Godfrey who has won the Assistant Principal (Innovation and Learning) for the next five years.

We have also farewelled our year 7 students who graduated on Tuesday night. They have done an outstanding job this year and we wish them all the best for their future. Special mention to those students who received awards:

- Rachel Sanderson MP
  Citizen Award - Hawi Anderson
- Rotary Student of the Year Awards
  Room 12 - Brigid Keane,
  Room 13 Jessica Stone-Wigg,
  Room 14 Shuntaro Suzuki
- IB Awards * International Mindedness Award
  Hawi Anderson *
  Action Award *
  Isaack Dick
- Service Awards
  Kellie Kourlis, Jessica Zhou
- Community Award
  Helena Williams *
- Approaches to learning Award
  Wihanga Amarasena

Kids Matter Award

GSPS is very proud to have been accredited as a Kids Matter School and recognised nationally. The school completed all 4 components of the training with all staff and some parent representatives.

Finally, it is my pleasure on behalf of the Gilles Street staff, to wish you all safe and happy holidays with your families.

See you in 2016.

Deb O’Neill
Did you know that just over one fifth of the students at GSPS have been involved as SRC reps this year? Of course many more have volunteered when the need arises. The community work and student voice has been impressive this year. Often we are all so busy that we can easily get caught up in our own worlds, so stepping out of our comfort zones and representing other students in our school can be a difficult but rewarding task.

We would like to thank all the SRC reps who have attended meetings, spoken up, given up their playtime, reported at assemblies and gone that extra bit further to ensure that Gilles Street Primary students have a voice!

Students’ feedback of the highlights of 2015 were the JP Pyjama Disco and the Yin Yang Café. So look out for more exciting activities in 2016!

Regards to all
Amy and Helen

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Tree Power - Poetry

trees make shade
trees stop sun
trees help us all
trees make paper
trees need help and we have not understood
trees are hide outs
trees make fresh air
for we don’t help by chopping them down
we need trees for oxygen, but chopping won’t make things better
we love our trees and they need help
so let’s try to recycle and stop trees getting chopped down!

Elysia Room 1/2
I would like to say a fond farewell to all the students, teachers and the school community of Gilles Street.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my role as the Visual Arts teacher.

It is a real joy working with children. Their creativity always astounds and inspires me.

It is the children I will miss when I leave but an exciting new adventure awaits me; including marriage, moving to an outback station and painting full-time.

I am sure that Michael Aquilina will bring an exciting new focus to the school as each of the arts are equally important and it is time for performing arts and music to have their turn in the spotlight.

Farewell Messages

Carol West

I would like to say thank you to all the Gilles Street School community. I have met so many wonderful children and families over the time I have been at the school. I have learned so much from each and every one of you. It has been an enriching experience being involved with so many cultures and developing my understandings of our differences and also, at the same time, our drive to meet the same needs of safety, security and happiness. I have been very fortunate to work with a wonderful staff that are driven by their care and passion for your children’s learning. I wish you all well for your future and thank you for the opportunity to share some of your pathway through life.

Changes to our Online Payments

From December 18 2015 the department will no longer be using Bizgate as a payment option. To replace Bizgate, we are in the process of establishing a number of payment options for families. Please see below.

B-Point

B-Point is a simpler version of Bizgate and will be accessible from Saturday 19 December.

QkR!

Gilles Street Primary School is excited to announce that we are launching QkR! in 2016.

QkR! is a free, secure mobile application for fast and easy payment of school accounts. The application is owned and operated by Mastercard, ensuring safety and privacy of information and alleviates the need to send cash to school with your child.

Direct Debit

This option will also be available and sent home to families with the 2016 M&S invoices.

To find out more about these payment options please take the time to visit our online payments page on our website.

Keep up to date with the progress of our launch by checking our website or Facebook page. http://www.gillesstps.sa.edu.au/Online-Payments

Private Instrumental Music 2016

From 2016 GSPS will be offering guitar, drums, piano and voice lessons.

Individual or small group lessons (maximum of 6 students) for students in Years 2-7 will be offered. All lessons are 30 minutes in length.

Lessons will be scheduled during school hours and taught by practicing professional musicians who have the appropriate qualifications to work with children and young people.

For further information please contact Michael Aquilina at the school in 2016.

To register initial interest please complete the enrolment form available from http://bit.ly/1NF1NH1

Fees will be advised in the new year before enrolments are confirmed.
Changes to Adelaide Metro public transport across metropolitan Adelaide

On 26 January 2016, the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) and service providers will be making changes to Adelaide Metro public transport services in the metropolitan area.

Some dedicated and regular bus services will be affected and therefore it is important that students obtain information regarding these changes from the Adelaide Metro website at www.adelaidemetro.com.au from early January 2016.

As part of the changes, DPTI will once again conduct a public awareness campaign closer to the implementation date. This will include media advertising including radio traffic reports, information from the Adelaide Metro website and the roll out of detailed customer information through timetables and kerbside information at affected bus stops and tram stations.

Information will also be available via the Adelaide Metro InfoLine 1300 311 108 and the Adelaide Metro InfoCentres at the corner of Currie and King William Streets and the Adelaide Railway Station, North Terrace, open 7 days a week.

Please disseminate this information to advise students and parents of these changes and the importance of seeking further information from the Adelaide Metro website (www.adelaidemetro.com.au) or the Adelaide Metro InfoLine on 1300 311 108 from early January 2016.

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Christmas Craft - School Holiday Fun!

@ HUTT STREET LIBRARY— Upstairs Conference Room, 235 Hutt Street

Session One: Paper Quilling—Design and make a beautiful Christmas Card

WHEN: Monday 14th December, 10.30am-12 noon

Session Two: Make a big Christmas Snowflake—Door Decoration

WHEN: Tuesday 15th December, 10.30am-12 noon

All Craft Sessions cost: $3 per participant

Suitable for ages 4 and upwards

All Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian

Enjoy being creative with your children this Christmas